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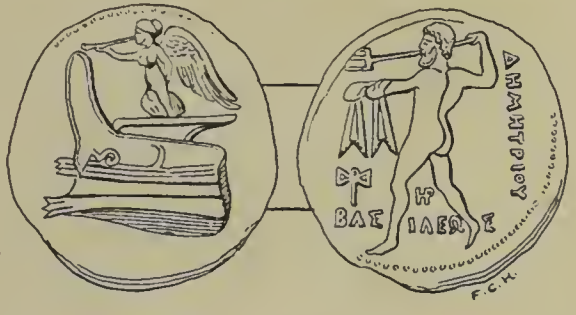

Beginning in this Issue

Numismatic By-Paths

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Mehl's Numismatic Monthly

Vol. IV. FORT WORTH, TEXAS, JANUARY, 1911 No. 1

Newspaper and Magazine Clippings pertaining to Coins thankfully received. Contributions from those interested in the Science solicited and liberally paid for

NUMISMATIC BY-PATHS

The Winged Victory of Samothrace

By B. H. SAXTON.

Blowing a fanfare of victory, poised on the prow of a galley sweeping onward with resistless force, radiant with a beauty as divine as the character ascribed to her by her ardent worshippers, the Nike of Samothrace presented a most magnificent conception of art at its zenith. Had ancient Greece left nothing besides, this one jewel would have placed us in a debt unmeasurable.

The man directly responsible for the discovery of this splendid statue, and who deserves a lasting memory, was Charles Champoiseau, who died recently at nearly eighty years of age. M. Champoiseau was French consul in the Levant when he was commissioned by his government to excavate among the ruins of various votive edifices on the isle of Samothrace. The first fragments were found in March, 1863, and three years later were put together and the statue was placed in the Louvre museum. Not until 1879 was it brought to its present incomplete state, the pedestal, which had for years been but a puzzling heap of stones, being the last to be put into place. There are 118 pieces in all, reassembled with remarkable skill; the head, arms and feet are mising, and a small part of the wings: all gone beyond recovery. Today it stands in the sculpture galleries of the Louvre, mutilated, but "still of dazzling splendor of form,

TETRADRACHM OF DEMETRIUS POLIORCETES

Struck to Commemorate the Naval Victory of Demetrius over Menelaus.

and vibrating with the eternal life of art."

Twenty-two centuries ago she waplaced near a covered colonnade at the end of a valley, with the green hills of Samothrace for a background and the blue sky overhead. In common with perhaps thousands of others I have often tried in imagination to picture the superb head this figure must have borne; only the unknown sculptor himself, whose temperament must have been of rarest refinement,

ORIGINAL STATE OF THE FIGURE.

could have conceived it; to us the riddle of the Sphinx is less a mystery. We do know, however, from a coin of Demetrius Poliorcetes that she held a trumpet to her lips, while in her left hand she bore a trophy of victory. Unquestionably the statue was erected about 306 B. C. to commemorate the brilliant naval victory of Demetrius over Menelaus, commanding the fleet of Ptolemy, off the island of Cyprus; the coins, undoubtedly struck in honor of this event, bore on the obverse the figure of the Nike of Samothrace standing on the prow of a Greek galley, or trireme. This is a notable instance in which a coin has helped definitely to solve an important question concerning the art of a long past age.

Numismatics is commonly regarded as being of greatest service historically, but the aid lent in other directions has been of immense value. It possesses another value also, and that is the power to awaken or intensify the collector's interest along just such lines as the subject of this sketch. What a splendid field of study does this one coin of Demetrius suggest! Numismatic by-ways to be sure, but by-ways that lead one into pleasant places, and whose fascination never grows old.

Art and mythology are associated on the obverse, and mythology and history on the reverse of this coin—all worthy of careful study in their related meanings. Poseidon (Neptune), the sea-god, is indicative of the sea supremacy just attained by Demetrius, and most appropriately accompanies the Victory on the opposite side of the piece. Homer's description of this god in the Iliad gives us the ancient idea of him and his attributes: "He yokes to the chariot his swift steeds, with feet of brass and manes of gold, and himself clad in gold, drives over the waves. The beasts of the sea sport round him, leaving their lurking places, for they know him to be their lord. The sea rejoices and makes way for him. His horses speed lightly and never a drop touches the brazen axle." He also speaks of him as "the great sea-god who shakes the earth and the inexhaustible sea."

Poseidon was celebrated in ancient paintings, on vases, coins, bas-reliefs and in statuary. He was represented in a very remote period upon the wall of the temple of Artemis Alpheionia, near Olympia, by Cleanthes, an early painter of Corinth; the Berlin museum possesses some very fine examples of vase paintings of this god, of about the same period, as well as some terra-cotta plaques found near Corinth. Poseidon was held in special honor by the Corinthians, and numerous coins of theirs bear him or

DESIGN OF THE MONUMENT.

some of his attributes, the dolphin, trident or horse; many other cities also give him a prominent place in their coinage designs. The greatest interest, however, naturally centers around the sculpture. Such master artists as Pheidias, Praxiteles, Lysippus and Skopas represented him in a number of splendid statues, both in marble and in bronze, some of them being of colossal proportions. The subject of the frieze of the Western

THE NIKE OF SAMOTHRACE.
The Restored Statue as it appears today.

Pediment of the Parthenon is the dispute between Poseidon and Athena, and while this work of Pheidias is not by any means complete the fragments have been sufficiently reconstructed to indicate the noble conception of the figure.

The reverse of the coin also bears the inscription:

ΔΗΜΗΤΡΙΟΥ ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ

This was the first instance of Demetrius appropriating the title of King, and it was in consequence of this naval victory that his father Antigonus assumed the royal crown, giving his son permission to do likewise.

Demetrius Poliorcetes plays a very prominent part in the history of his time, and has the distinction of occupying a place among the biographies of Plutarch. His life was one of war, intrigue and treachery; his character detestable and cruel to the last degree. Notwithstanding this, he possesed marked ability in some lines, such as military engineering, and it must be admitted that he won many more battles than he lost.

Demetrius was but eighteen years old when he was commissioned by his father to take command of an army against Ptolemy. His first campaign was short and unsuccessful, but some two or three years later came the sea-fight with Menelaus, ending with the victory so nobly commemo-

rated on the isle of Samothrace. While at this period the empire subjected by Alexander the Great stretched from Greece to India—well deserved was Alexander's title—Demetrius was mainly active in the west, in Macedonia and in Greece. Athens, to her sorrow, probably knew him as well as, if not better than any other one city: at times as an ally, at others as an enemy. Thus war succeeded war, compacts were made and broken with armies and kings, until, after the failure of a hopeless expedition into the interior of Asia about 285 B. C., we see him delivered up by his own troops to Seleucus, who had out-manouvred them and cut off all retreat. He was treated with undeserved consideration, and no great time later ended his days in Syria.

The opposite sides of this coin could hardly have shown more divergence of interest had they been struck by two different nations. The original of the one is not only an indication of the remarkable depth of influence exerted over the Greeks by their polytheistic religion, but is a perfect realization in marble of their association of the highest ideal of beauty with the divinities who supposedly ruled their destinies.

While the original of the other is of more general mythological treatment, it is the inscription which indicates the strongest contrast—"King Demetrius," a mortal without trace of beauty in character or in purpose, a man who helped to make and unmake petty kingdoms, sacrificing everything with relentless ambition to gain his ends.

Demetrius Poliorcetes will live in history only as a name: his power perished with his armies. The creator of the Winged Victory is unknown—his name has been lost for centuries—but his incomparable work has lived after him, and the world is richer for all time.

[This is the first of a series of articles prepared especially for the Numismatic Monthly by Mr. Saxton. The second article of the series will be published in an early issue.—Editor.]

The White Medal

This medal has been established by Mr. George Robert White, of Boston, to be awarded to those who have brought scientific genius to bear upon the fostering of the fruits of the earth. A man like Luther Burbank, for example, is eligible for this medal. The first recipient of it is Mr. Charles Sprague Sargent, whose services to aboriculture are known throughout the world. Mr. Flanagan had a difficult task to produce a design in keeping with the essential modernity of the subject and at the same time adjusted to the laws of medallic art. is kneeling figure is a decidedly naturalistic motive, but it has been remarkably well placed within the narrow bounds of the medal. So, likewise, have his conventionalized fruits and flowers been deftly balanced with the lettering. The very interesting scheme of this medal has been carried out with excellent modelling. The work has been struck in gold. It is the sort of thing which one cordially welcomes. It is delightful to know that the American medallist is being more and more frequently employed.

Law Concerning Coins

Using Them as Advertismenrs—How They May Be Mutilated.

Thousands of dollars are lost yearly by big firms through iguorance or carelessness in observing the Federal laws governing abuse of coins.

Just lately in Chicago a piano company came to grief in this way. Had they asked the proper authorities (the information would have been furnished gratis) or had they looked up the law they would have found in section 165, public act No. 350. these words:

"Whoever, fraudulently, by any art, way or means shall deface, mutilate, impair, diminish, falsify or lighten . . . the gold old silver coins which have been or which may hereafter be coined in the mint of the United States . . . shall be fined not more than $2,000 and imprisonment of not more than five years.

Much trouble and expense would have been saved the firm and the government had the law only been read.

It all happened in this way: Some clever advertiser conceived the idea fo an "ad" of metal just the size of a dime, with the wording and printing placed in such a way that at first glance it would appear as a dime. The idea was cleverly executed. A fair imitation of the head of Liberty was on one side and the advertisement on the other. The number was placed where the date on a dime is and the first glance certainly impressed one as the real coin. The other side had a sheaf of wheat and in the center the words "On Time."

The firm had no desire to defraud the public. But unscrupulous people who had access to them did Several waiters at a summer park lost money by accepting the advertisement for real money, chewing gum machines were filled with them and at last the secret service learned how matters were and began an investigation.

There were 150,000 of the metals confiscated. Some stray ones, however, were in circulation and it took almost a year to "hunt them down."

Jewelers are guilty every day of committing a criminal offense. Every day some one of them lays himself liable to the law. According to the ordinance quoted above, to mutilate money is an offense in the eyes of the law. Jewelers file one side of a coin smooth and monogram it. The other side is perfectly good. Pins, bracelets, lockets and numerous other things are made. The owner never means to use the article for money. But some one gets hold of the pin or locket. They think the money would be more useful and so pass the coin with the pin or ring pulled off and the good side up.

To "change the complexion" of a coin also is an offense. That means to dip silver in gold. Only a few days ago a "lot" of shirt sets were confiscated and sent to Washington. The sets were made of Panama half-pennies gilded. Carelessness of the law again.

The only kind of coin that can be worn is that so completely mutilated that there can be no chance at all of passing it; for example, the filigreed dimes that the Mexicans make—Chicago Tribune.

CURRENCY OF THE SOCIETY ISLANDS.

The governor of the colony of Tahiti and its dependencies is taking steps to have the Chilean and Peruvian silver coin retired from circulation. Through the Official Journal attention has been called to the fact that such coin has been current for many years at more than its real value and that holders of it are likely to suffer serious loss when this deposed coin can no longer be allowed to circulate in the colony. The Bank of Indio-China gives notice in the same journal that it will purchase Chilean piasters and half piasters at the rate of 1.8 francs ($0.35) a piaster.

In consequence of these notices only French money has been taken in the Papeete market for several weeks, but the natives, not being accustomed to sell for such money, wanted as much of it in name as they had been receiving in the debased coin, and charged a French franc for what was formerly sold for a Chilean franc. The municipal council held a meeting to adjust prices to a proper basis for French money, and the cost of living has been saved from what threatened to be a serious and permanent increase. Laborers also endeavored to take advantage of the situation by asking twice as much for a day's work, but they were unsuccessful until the steamer Mariposa arrived on September 23rd. The agents of the ship were obliged, in consequence of the strike to pay $2 a day (nine hours) to natives for loading and unloading the cargo, twice as much as has ever been paid for such work in Papeete. Apprehensions are felt that this first successful strike may be the beginning of labor troubles in Tahiti, where wages are really low.—Consular Report.

THE COINAGE OF THE NEW REIGN FOR INDIA.

The design on the obverse of the new rupee is to be the work of Mr. Bertram Mackennal, but, according to the Pioneer, the design of the reverse will most probably be the production of Mr. Percy Brown, the Principal of the Government School of Art, Calcutta, this being the first occasion on which the design has been entrusted to an artist resident in India. The inscription, in English and the vernacular, will be contained in a circle in the center. This will leave a wide border, around which will be carried a Saracenic scroll. In the spaces left by the scroll will be conventional representations of the Rose, the Shamrock, and the Thistle, while at top and bottom will be the Indian Lotus.—London Times.

MAY ABANDON MINT.

Charlotte Assay Office Was Located When Gold Was Discovered.

Washington, Dec. 10.—A monument to the first gold producing district in the United States will be wiped away if Congress approves Secretary MacVeigh's plan to abandon the old assay office at Charlotte, N. Carolina.

When the first gold mine was found in 1830, a branch mint was located at Charlotte in the heart of the treasure district. When the strikes of 1849 came on, and the great gold fields of the West developed, the Charlotte mint declined and finally reached the class of an assay office, which it still is, doing little or no business.

The Charlotte mint produced only gold coins, and was discontinued in 1861. One of the very rarest coins of the United States series was coined at this mint: the 1854 gold dollar, which according to the Mint Record, only four specimens were struck, but none are known today.

"I take pleasure in enclosing my subscription renewal, and want to congratulate you upon the sustained excellence of the Numismatic Monthly." B. H. SAXTON.

ENGLISH SIEGE PIECES

Relics of The Civil War, 1642-49

By EDWARD F. HERDMAN.

Beeston Castle, in Cheshire, now a picturesque ruin, was another stronghold from which siege pieces were issued during the great Civil War, and where silver plate, in whatever form it could be obtained, was again utilized. The pieces are very crude, of varying form, and are for singularly odd denominations, such as sixteen pence, thirteen pence, eleven pence and seven pence. The two shilling pieces gives a front view of the castle gateway, which can still be seen at the foot of the eminence upon which the castle ruins stand. This piece is particularly interesting, inasmuch as it was struck upon the bowl of an old seal top, or Apostle spoon, which was the class of spoon in vogue at the time. The London hall mark, a leopard's head, will be noticed to the left of the value.

The shilling also bears a view of the castle gateway, but with the value S I above instead of below. The seven pence is to be met with in triangular form, and the gateway of the castle is also shown on it, with the value vii below.

The Beeston pieces are very rare, and fetch anything up to £30 each, according to value and condition.

Money of necessity of the value of 3s and 1s was struck at Carlisle Castle by Sir Thomas Glenham in 1645, when he defended Carlisle for the King, a quantity of most valuable plate being given up by partisans for the purpose. The obverse of the three shilling pieces are inscribed, within a beaded circle, C. R. III.s beneath a large crown. The reverse bear OBS:CARL.1645, in three lines; also within a beaded circle. A variety is to be found with the lettering on the reverse in two lines. The shilling sare of somewhat similar design. Recent catalogues price the 3s. piece at £15, and the 1s piece at from £3 to £6, according to variety and state.

Colchester, the headquarters of the Royalists in the Eastern counties, also

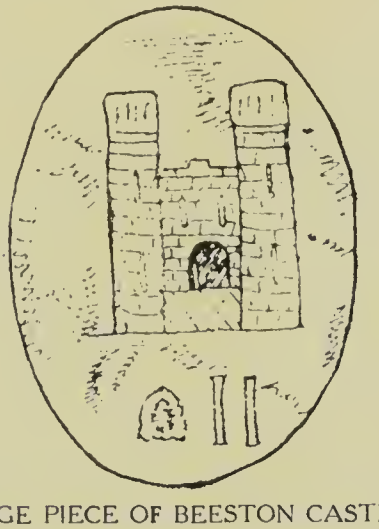
SIEGE PIECE OF NEWARK

underwent a siege by Fairfax in 1648, where an unique half-unit (10s.) was minted in gold. The prophecy denoted by the legend—CAROLI FORTUNA RESURGUM ("The Fortune of Charles shall rise again") was, at all events, fulfilled in the person of Charles II. Some of the Colchester pieces are probably not contemporary, but all are scarce.

The most numerous, and consequently the least expensive, of the whole series of obsidional money under view, is that issued at Newark in 1645-1646. These pieces are lozenge-shaped, and many varieties in lettering and details are to be obtained.

The denominations are half crown, shilling, nine pence and six pence. All the pieces are of a similar type, and do not need describing. They bring anything from 10s to £4 The nine pence appears to be the commonest of the Newark pieces.

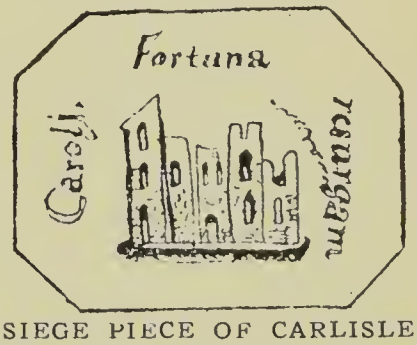
The Countess of Derby is supposed to have issued obsidional money of the value of one shilling, whilst defend-



SIEGE PIECE OF BEESTON CASTLE

ing Latham House, Lancastershire, against Fairfax himself, but so far as is known only one example of it has survived. It is, of course, of the greatest rarity.

Pieces of similar character of those already dealt with were issued in Ireland during the same period—the castles of Dublin and Cork being represented amongst the number. The Inchiquin siege piece is struck on an irregular flan of eight angles, and is peculiar in that the value is denoted in pennyweights and grains. It is proposed to deal with the Irish section in a future paper.



SIEGE PIECE OF CARLISLE

Money of necessity forms an interesting page in the history of England, and on that account alone will always appeal to coin collectors, and although the pieces may be out of the reach of young collectors, it appears only right that they should know something of them, and so be able to recognize a specimen should one by chance come their way.

TWO 1804 DOLLARS FOUND.

Only Four Others Said To Be in Existence.

Carlisle, Penn., Dec. 8.—Two of the rare United States silver dollars of the 1804 issue turned up here today. They were found by Miss Mabel Smith, executrix, among the property of the late John C. Comfort, once a well known patent attorney, who died two weeks ago.

Although more than nineteen thousand of the coins were minted, nearly all of them were sent to the Mediterranean to pay off the men on the American fleet then in those waters. The ship was lost at sea. As far as coin experts know there are only four more of the pieces in existence. The last time one was sold it brought more than $3,000.

David Proskey commented vigorously on the published report of the finding of two of the rare United States silver dollars of the 1804 issue at Carlisle, Penn. Mr. Proskey said:

"As numismatic frauds and fakes are now constantly being thrown out of the cabinets of all discerning collectors, the time has come for the final disposition of that king of all fakes, the alleged 1804 dollar.

"It is a well known fact that no dollars were coined by the United States in 1804, those bearing this date being charitably designated as 'restrikes,' and were undoubtedly struck since steam coinage was invented, or from 1836 to 1860. The genuine 1804 dollar is a myth.'

BOOKS AND CATALOGUES.

COINS AND TOKENS of NOVA SCOTIA, by Dr. Eugene G. Courteau. This book, which was recently issued, is, we believe, the only work of its kind published, and for the first time gives a complete list of all known varieties of the coins and tokens of the Province of Nova Scotia. Dr. Courteau, who has made a thorough study of these coins, is an expert on these particular coins, and his work, which is elegantly gotten up, with seven beautiful plates illustrating all the varieties, should prove of great value to all numismatists interested in this series.

We are in receipt of the catalogue of the Salbach collection of coins and medals to be sold by J. Schulman, of Amsterdam, Holland, February 20th. The collection is an interesting one to American collectors, for the reason that it is composed of a most interesting series of coins and medals of Central and South America and a fine set of medals relating to the colonial history of America. The catalogue listing over 2,200 lots together with ten fine plates illustrating the rarer coins, is gotten up according to the excellent standard maintained by Mr. Schulman.

Well, I am glad. I got rid of those old coppers.
I am glad you are rid of those coins, I have an auction catalog here and we will send in some bids.
AUCTION SALE COINS
You simply pick out the lots you want, bid as much as you are willing to pay, send in your bids and wait for the sale.
It is always best to select carefully as coins are most interesting when in fine condition.
AUCTION SALE
BID
BID
VERKLER

MR. WATERBURY'S NUMISMATIC EXPERIENCES.

This is the third of a series of drawings especially prepared for the Numismatic Monthly, by Mr. Verkler, illustrating the experiences of every new collector, and incidentally giving many good suggestions for the young collector.

The Chicago Numismatic Society

The eighty-third monthly meeting of the above named Society was held in their rooms, 1622 Masonic Temple, on Friday evening, December 2nd, President Harry F. Williams presiding. The following nineteen members were present: Messrs. Carey, W. F. Dunham, Virgil M. Brand Simpson, Leon, Tuckerman, Edward Michael, Vercouter, Baker, Williams, Kransz, Wilson, Davis, Puttkamer, Kelly, Green, Verkler, Lamson and Fred Michael. Mr. E. G. Scully was present as a visitor. The resignation of Mr. C E Mueller was received and accepted.

The committee on award for designs for medal commemorating the progress of aviation reported as follows: First choice, Carl Schreiber; second, Irma Buck; third, Fred M. Torrey; fourth, (honorable mention), Harry Weinbrenner. Mr. Tuckerman showed a set of photographs of the accepted designs. A motion was carried instructing the committee on medallic production to report at next meeting recommending size of medals to be struck in bronze and silver and to secure estimates of cost for engraving the dies and striking the medals.

Messrs. Swan Nelson, T. W. Blatchford and E. G. Scully were elected to membership.

The following officers were elected to serve for the coming year:

President, Harry F. Williams.

Vice President, F. Elmo Simpson.

Secretary, Ben G. Green.

Treasurer, T. E. Leon.

Censor, F. M. Tuckerman.

Librarian, E. C. Verkler.

Curator, M. P. Carey.

Executive Committee, Virgil M. Brand, Ben G. Green and F. Elmo Simpson.

Under exhibitions, Mr. Verkler showed a number of medals which had been made from machine cut dies; Mr. Leon, $50 compound interest greenback, gold Byzantine solidus and 24 and 96 stivers in silver of Ceylon; Mr. V. M. Brand, seven $2.50 Bechtler gold pieces, $2.50 gold pieces of Conway & Co., Templeton Reid and John Parson & Co., a gold stater of Seleucus I of Syria, gold stater of Rhodes, a quinarius of Faustina, Senior and an aureus of Pertinax; and Mr. Green a $2.50 Bechtler piece.

Magazines received were: Spink's Circular and Numismatic Correspondenz for November; auction catalogues from H. Chapman, Green, H. S. Rosenberg and Schulman (2); and the Hub Coin Book from Alexander & Co.

Adjourned to met January 6th, 1911.

BEN G. GREEN, Secretary.

New York Numismatic Club

The twenty-fifth regular monthly meeting of the New York Numismatic Club took place at Keen's Chop House on Thursday evening, December 8th, with an excellent attendance, due to the number in town for Wayte Raymond's sale of the same date.

The election of officers for the year 1911 was proceeded with and resulted in a return of all the officers announced as nominated at the previous meeting plus Mr. Daniel R. Kennedy, who retains the secretaryship and the constitution of an executive committee consisting of Messrs. Jos. C. Mitchelson, E. Smith, E. H. Adams and Thomas L. Elder.

The Medallic Committee presented the completed N. Y. N. C. badges in gold, which were subscribed to by the membership and much admired.

President Higgins made a formal announcement of the selection of the dates of Thursday to Saturday, May 18th, 19th and 20th, 1911, as those of the first Numismatic Salon to be held by the Club which would include the banquet to be tendered to the Eastern Seaboard District Conventions of the A. N. A., which would be invited to make this their time and place of meeting, in accordance with their suggestion at the last general convention.

It was announced by Mr. D. M. Webster that the dies for the Dr. Heath Memorial Medal, the inception of which belonged to the Club, had been ordered and would soon be available for striking the copies subscribed to.

The President proposed the name for Honorary Membership of the Club of Admiral, His Serene Highness Prince Louis of Battenberg, who had accepted in a very cordial personal letter to President Higgins, in which he said: "I need hardly say that I shall esteem it a great honor to belong to the New York Numismatic Club in any capacity whatever."

His Highness, who is one of the world's most distinguished collectors and contributors to the bibliography of Numismatic science, was elected by a rising vote.

A letter to the Secretary was read from the President of the Moscow Numismatic Society, desiring to acquire a copy of the Club Presidential Medal, which was ordered to be forwarded. The thanks of the British Museum authorities were received for a similar gift upon their own request. The resignations were received of David Proskey and Joseph A. Lawler.

On motion of President Higgins, seconded by Vice President Frey and Edgar H. Adams, Mr. Farran Zerbe, ex-President of the American Numismatic Association, was elected a member of the Club. The elections of Mr. Ben G. Green and Gustave Senft were also announced.

It was decided that beginning in January next that each meeting of the Club would be partly consecrated to the discussion of some numismatic topic to be announced beforehand by the executive committee.

In order to consume as little of the Club's time at meetings by the discussion of official business, the executive officers and committee will hence forth meet regularly at 6:30 every Friday evening at Keen's for this purpose.

Many varied and beautiful exhibits were made by members during the evening.

DANIEL R. KENNEDY,
Secretary.

Mr. Higgins "Luck Josh" Put to the Test

One of our New York correspondents sends us the following interesting account, which we publish verbatim.

"Our friend, Frank C. Higgins, as you know, has designed and had struck several specimens of what he calls "The Lucky Josh of Chinatown"—a brass coin with a hole in it, and which he is selling to the Chinamen for lucky coins. Now, it appears the other day that our friend—D. Macon Webster—who is a lawyer, was approached by a Chinaman who had met with an accident, namely: had been hit by a car and his cue cut off. Now, of course, you know that the Chinamen consider their cues one of their choicest possessions, and he approached Webster to find out what it was best to do. Webster seeing what he termed a chance for easy money advised the Chinaman to sue the railroad company, as he figured in his mind. 'We will sue the company for $30. (The company will be glad to settle for this.) When it is paid I will take $25 and give the Chink $5." Well, Webster writes a letter to the railroad company and in the course of a few days into his office walks the Chink with his face wreathed in smiles, and going up to Webster, he says: 'You velly smart lawyer. Here is $5. I get $30 from the company,' and incidentally pulls out one of Higgins' lucky coins, to which he attributes his good luck.

"This is the first case of which I have heard of Higgins' 'Lucky Joshes' being put into active and successful use. S.

A "PHILATELIC" BOUQUET.

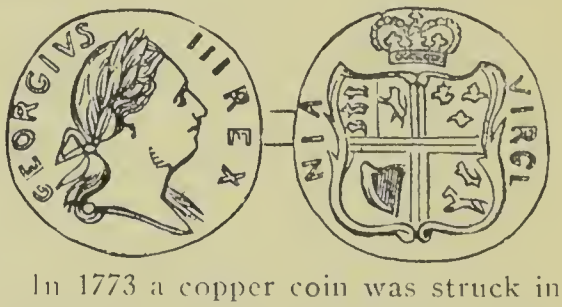
"I am indeed glad to hear that the Numismatic Monthly is in the best of health, for although I make no profession of collecting coins, I look for the Monthly with pleasure every thirty days for I find a whole lot of interesting matter for the stamp collector, strange as it may seem.

"I cannot help but feel that the Numismatic Monthly is meeting with a great success; it has so much solid matter of worth, so neat and its every appearance is of prosperity. Long life to it."

Dr. H. A. Davis.
(Ex. Sec. Amer. Philatelic Society.)

"I value the Numismatic Monthly very highly, and wish you success with it in the future."

F. J. CARPENTER.



In 1773 a copper coin was struck in England for use in Virginia, U. S. A., which was a very fine piece. It has been said that the issue of this coin had some reference to an interesting historical fact, namely, the invitation of Charles II. by Virginia to come over and establish his throne in the Dominion—an invitation which the king did not forget, but subsequently honored by allowing Virginia to adopt his own arms. The authority of this statement is not known, but the coin remains one of the most beautiful of the early coins of America.

THE BRITISH MUSEUM

The British Museum is not only one of the chief attractions of London, but it is one of the most important institutions of the kingdom. Like many other institutions, it had a very small beginning. It originated in 1753 with the purchase by the nation of the library and collections of Sir Hans Sloane, who had spent a long lifetime in forming them.

Montague House, Bloomsbury, formerly the residence of the Earl of Halifax, was purchased in order to house these treasures. The Cottonian and Harleian collections were added to them, and the museum was opened to the public in 1759. Since then many libraries and collections have been added.

The building has been enlarged from time to time to meet its ever-increasing requirements, and the front now extends over 370 feet, the Ionic portico, with its projecting wings, forming a colonnade of forty-four stately columns.

In 1857 the great circular Reading Room was erected in the central quadrangle at a cost of £150,000. In 1879 a new gallery was built for the Mausoleum marbles, and a new wing on the southeast, in which accommodation is provided for the department of Prints and Drawings, newspaper reading room, exhibition galleries, etc. The number of volumes in the Library is estimated to be close upon two millions; about 35,000 volumes are added annually, and the shelves, if placed in a row, would extend to about ffity miles. The alphabetical Catalogue extends over 2,000 volnumes.

The doorway to the right of the entrance hall gives access to the Granville Library, in which is shown a series of illuminated MSS., arranged chronologically to illustrate the progress of illumination from the tenth to the sixteenth century. In the Manuscript Room are specimens of ancient and illuminated M.S., historical and literary papers, autographs, charters, and seals. In the King's Library the origin and progress of printing are illustrated by select specimens dating from tlie year 1423.

Between the entrance hall and the reading room is the Room of Greek and Latin inscriptions, in the midst of which are two Lycian tombs, profusely sculptured. To the left is the Roman Gallery, containing a series of Roman portrait busts and statues Three rooms are devoted to statues, busts, and reliefs of the mixed class termed Graeco-Roman.

In the Elgin Room are deposited the sculptures from the Parthenon which stood on the Acropolis of Athens, and some remains from the Erechtheum. In the Phigaleian Room are some of the marble remains of the Temple of Apollo Epicurios, erected near Phigaleia, B. C., 430.

Monuments from Phoenicia, Carthage, Cyprus, Palmyra and Aden are deposited in the Phoenician Room. Chief of these is a cast of the Moabite Stone (B. C. 900), which records the wars of Mesha, King of Moab, against Ahab and other kings.

In the first and second Egyptian Rooms, arranged in chronological order, are a fine series of mummies and mummy cases; the third room having sepulchral furniture, mummied animals, weapons, tools, writing implements, and articles for personal use; and the fourth showing alabasters, porphyry, and earthenware articles, also amulets, domestic furniture, and utensils. These articles extend from the period of the fourth dynasty (about B. C. 3633) to that of the Roman occupation.

In the Babylonian and Assyrian Rooms are arranged antiquities from Babylon and Assyria, including many

objects of the later periods of Persian, Greek, Parthian, Roman and Sasanian dominion. Of special interest is the chronological series of bricks impressed with stamps, extending from B. C. 2500 to B. C. 539. Among the numerous cylinder seals, which used to be rolled over the moist clay of the tablet, is one that belonged to Darius, the inscription being: "I am Darius, the great king"

There is an admirable collection of Coins and Medals, enabling one to study the gold and silver coinage of the world from the invention of the art of coining early in the seventh century B. C. to the present day.

The collection of Prints occupies four rooms, and illustrates the progress of the art of engraving from A. D. 1480 to 1850. Six rooms are devoted to the smaller members of the department of Greek and Roman Antiquaries. Four of these contain cases and one bronzes, and these are succeeded by the Etruscan saloon. A doorway on the south of the last-named saloon conducts into the room of Gold Ornaments and Gems, containing an instructive and beautiful collection.

If you receive this number of the Monthly as a sample copy, send in your subscription now, while you think of it. Remember that you will receive twelve more issues for your fifty cents.

About forty per cent of the renewals of subscriptions received for 1911 are for two years. This is certainly evidence of the confidence the readers have in the Numismatic Monthly. The Monthly is now beginning on its fourth successful year. It has safely passed the period of infancy and vindicated its right and determination to live. It has selected and occupied its field of activity and today it enjoys the largest circulation of any Numismatic publication in the world.

THREE-DOLLAR GOLD PIECES.

Beginning with the year 1854, and ending with the year 1889, there were 539,729 of three-dollar gold coins sent out from the United States mints, a total value of $1,619,376. A few were made in 1854 at the mints at Dahlonega, Georgia, and New Orleans and quite a number—in the years 1855, 1856, 1857 and 1860—at the San Francisco mint, but the bulk of these coins were turned out by the mint at Philadelphia. They were never coined in sufficient numbers, ese figures show, to become really familiar to the people outside of banks, and it is hardly strange that the existence of the coin should be now largely forgotten.

Following are the most valuable dates: 1854 D. Mint., 1865, 1867, 1873, 1875, 1876 and 1877. Only 25 coins of t' e 1873, twenty of the 1875 and forty-five of the 1876 are reported to have been coined. These three dates have realized at auction, $132.00, $440.00 and $135.00 respectively.

SMALLER U. S. BILLS.

Lee McLung, treasurer of the United States, in addressing the American Bankers' Association Convention at Los Angeles, this month, urged a reduction in the size of the paper money and a uniform size of both treasury and United States bank notes. Mr. McClung declared the government could reduce the size of bills one-fourth inch in length and one-half inch in width, thus saving $612,000 annually.

Paper on which the treasury notes are printed costs the government $1.40 per pound. In cutting the note down to two-thirds size, forty-six cents will be saved on each pound of paper used. In addition, it is planned to have all notes of same denomination bear the same head, whether they be gold or silver certificates. This, it is believed, will be a help in detecting counterfeits, as bank clerks, will not have to look out for more than a single likeness on bills of a particular face value.

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The condition of the collection runs as follows: 1794, 1795, 1796, 1800, 1802, 1803, 1805, 1806 and 1807 in very fair to very good condition; 1808, 1810 and 1823 good to very good; all others good to extra fine.

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VOLUME 4

NUMBER 2
Whole Number 38

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An Illustrated Monthly Journal Published in the Interest of Coins and Coin Collectors

February, 1911

Subscription, 50c per year; Single Copies 10c.

EDITED AND PUBLISHED BY

B. Max Mehl

NUMISMATIST

FORT WORTH, TEXAS, U. S. A.

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Mehl's Numismatic Monthly

Vol. IV. FORT WORTH, TEXAS, FEBRUARY, 1911 No. 2

Newspaper and Magazine Clippings pertaining to Coins thankfully received. Contributions from those interested in the Science solicited and liberally paid for

The Government Money Laundry

Where Soiled Paper Currency Is Washed and Ironed.

By THOMAS D. GANNAWAY, of the United States Treasury Department, in the National Monthly.

Ever hear of our money laundry at Washington? The government maintains such a laundry, wherein soiled and dirty greenbacks are washed and ironed. The "life" of this paper currency is thus prolonged and the country is saved considerable expense each year because of this laundering process, which has now passed the experimental stage. Arrangements are now under way for the installation of improved machinery and when this is in operation the money laundry will be equipped to turn out more and even better work than is the case today.

It actually costs Uncle Sam $13.50 per thousand notes (regardless of denomination) to manufacture and put them into circulation. This is equal to an annual interest of almost 1¼ per cent on the $1.00 notes, which have an average life of only fourteen months. The life of small notes is very much shorter than that of the large denominations, because of the greater amount of handling, therefore the greater part of the expense of our paper currency circulation is incurred with the smaller denominations. This is better understood when we learn that the $1.00, $2.00 and $5.00 notes—excluding National bank currency—compose about 90 per cent of the number of notes in circulation. The larger denominations are fit for circulation much longer after they are first issued than the smaller ones, hence do not have to be redeemed so soon thereafter.

A very large portion of the notes which come back to the Treasury Department for redemption, are not worn out, but are merely soiled from rough usage.

As a result of the clamor for economy in public expenditures and also for clean paper currency, the Director of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, Joseph E. Ralph, conceived the idea of putting these soiled notes through a laundering process, and then back into circulation. The more he studied the scheme, the more feasible it appeared to him. He submitted his plan to the Secretary of the Treasury and the latter appointed a committee composed of C. S. Pearce, of the Treasurer's office, chairman; Burgess Smith, of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, chemist; George Leet, of the Secretary's office; C. C. Pusey, Assistant Treasurer at Baltimore, and L. R. Acton, a paper expert, of Washington to investigate, experiment, and report on the feasibility of the laundering scheme.

These men have been experimenting with the laundering process for about seven months, and, as a result of these experiments, have proved, beyond reasonable doubt, that it is feasible, and worthy of general adoption by the Government.

The process of washing the money is very simple, being almost identi-

cal to that used by the steam laundries in washing clothes. The chairman of the committee says:

"The scheme of laundering paper money is here to stay, but the exact method of washing it has not yet been decided upon."

The committee is experimenting with two or three styles of tubs. One of the most feasible plans is to put the notes into a wire contrivance which holds them in such manner as to prevent any friction whatever, and also prevents them from piling together. This contrivance consists of a number of wire trays with a single layer of notes in each and then stacked together and placed inside of a cylindrical tub filled with suds made with a soap especially prepared for this work by Chemist Smith, who has charge of the practical part of the work. The soap is composed principally of potash and some high grade oils. Mr. Smith is now trying to manufacture a soap which will cleanse the money and at the same time bleach it.

After the trays of money have been placed in the suds, which has been heated to a temperature of 130 degrees to 140 degrees F., the tub is closed and started to revolving. A greater temperature than 140 degrees F. has proved to be injurious to the money. This process is kept going for ten to fifteen minutes, during which time the dirt has been removed from the notes. They are then taken out and rinsed the same way in clear water for about five minutes to remove all the suds. Next the money is put into a germicide bath of the nature of formaldehyde, thereby killing all gorms which may be lurking around on it. It is taken from this and bleached and partially dried. The next step is to put it through the sizing tub, or vat as it may be called. This vat contains a 10 per cent solution of glue with a little alum in it. There are a number of small endless belts which pass over rolers at the top of either end of the vat and under one in the solution. The money is fed in between these belts at one end of the vat and they carry it down through the solution and drop it out at the other end. It is then taken to the ironing machine.

Here it is placed in stacks containing about forty notes each, with a piece of Fuller board separating the notes from each other. This Fuller, or press board, is a thin, flexible substance resembling a thin piece of sole leather. These stacks are taken one at a time and fed through between two heavy steel rollers which are held together with a thirty-ton pressure. Each stack of notes is put through two of these machines, which completes the ironing.

After the bills are washed and ironed they are placed in the drying room, for the purpose of getting rid of every particle of moisture.

The yellow ink used on the gold cetrificates is of such a character that the potash dissolves it and it is washed out hence these certificates can not yet be laundered. So it is with the signatures of the bank officers on the National bank notes.

The committee hopes to overcome this difficulty. As it is at present, they can only launder silver certificates and treasury notes, but these compose a very large percentage of our paper money.

During the year 1909, excluding National bank notes, there were 187,784,000 one-dollar, two-dollar and five-dollar notes issued, and in the same period of time there were 177,412,809 notes of the same denominations destroyed. At the close of the year 1909 there were 222,365,692 notes of these three denominations still in circulation. The cost to the Government for manufacturing and issuing these 187,784,000 notes was $2,535,084. The cost of destroying the 177,412,809 notes was $309,308.18, making a grand total of $2,925,392.18 for maintaining the circulation of notes of only three denominations for one year.

It is estimated that it will not cost

more than one-tenth of one cent per note to launder them. It is claimed that laundering the notes will add at least eight months or 56 per cent to their life, thereby diminishing the annual redemption by 56 per cent. The redeeming and issuing of the 177,412,809 notes in 1909, cost the Government $2,787,151.23. With the new process 56 per cent of this, or $1,560,806.93, less $298,053.52, the cost of laundering and reissuing of the 56 per cent of the redemptions for 1909, would be saved. This would leave a net saving of $1,262,753.41 in one year on the circulation of $1.00, $2.00 and $5.00 notes. National bank notes excluded.

A good deal of space in the press has been devoted to the discussion of the money laundry, even though much of it had to be drawn from imagination. What is said about the laundry tub for the permanent plant has to be of a very uncertain character, as it has not yet been ordered made; in fact, the committee has not decided what style it will use. But they are satisfied it will not be like the experimental one. As to the ironing machines and the sizing machine, they will be of about the same design as the experimental ones, but only about one-third as large. These have already been ordered made and will soon be ready for installation.

NEW CORONATION COINS.

London, Dec. 9.—The five-pound and two-pound pieces which are to be struck in connection with the new coinage will form a special coronation issue. Only a limited number will be issued, and the coins are not intended for general circulation.

They will be on sale to the general public at their face value at the Bank of England during the coronation period and the majority are expected to be purchased by souvenir hunters and coin collectors. Although not meant for ordinary circulation, the coins can be legally tendered in the same way as other coins. Special proof sets will be kept at the Royal mint and sold in cases at an extra charge of 20 per cent above their face value.

PATTERN COINS.

A pattern coin is one that has been accepted by the authorities at the Mint, and has in consequence never been struck for circulation. When a coinage was contemplated it was usual for the artist to submit several pieces of different designs, but of the same denomination for selection; those not chosen then became patterns, and only a few were struck. Often medallists have made designs for coins unofficially. These also are termed patterns. Being scarce, and often very rare, such pieces are much sought after by collectors who are generally prepared to pay high prices for them.

The most interesting and most popular of the United States pattern coins is the $4.00 gold piece which has more than doubled in value within the past few years. The highest priced pattern coins are the two unique $50 gold pieces of 1877 only two of which are known and which were sold at $10,000 each, the highest price ever paid for a coin. (See illustrations page 43, Star Coin Book, 4th edition.)

GOLD.

Gold! gold! gold! gold!
Bright and yellow, hard and cold;
Molten, graven, hammered and rolled;
Heavy to get and light to hold;
Hoarded, bartered, bought and sold.
Stolen, borrowed, squandered, doled;
Spurned by the young, but hugged by the old
To the very verge of the church yard mould;
Price of many a crime untold;
Gold! gold! gold! gold!
Good or bad a thousand fold!

—Thomas Hood.

KRUGER COINS.
To Be Recognized as Legal Tender

Short Sketch of the Pretoria Mint.

(From the London Daily Telegraph, Through Kindness of Mr. J. Armstrong Foster.)

A writer in the Transvaal Weekly states that arrangements are being made for the recognition in the various provinces of the Union of Kruger coinage as legal tender, and for the removal of the disabilities that have existed in the Colonies outside of the Transvaal in the way of exchange being mulcted on Transvaal coins. He learns further that the authorities in Rhodesia have been approached, and there is promise of their likewise coming into line and accepting Kruger coins at their face value, and without deductions for exchange. Travellers throughout South Africa coming from the Transvaal have hitherto had reason to complain of having, say, in Natal, to forfeit a shilling on changing a Kruger sovereign. In the native territories natives returning from the mines on the Rand had the unpleasant experience of discovering that the purchasing value of the sovereign that had its origin in the Transvaal mint was not all they thought it to be, and generally a suspicion of these coins was created in the native mind. The arrangement for the face value recognition of these coins will likely be extended to the territories and Protectorates.

The Pretoria mint was established in 1891, and abolished in 1903. During its career it minted £1,795,532 9s, of which gold coins totalled £1,458,771 10s and silver coins £336,760 19s. As to the amount still in circulation, only rough estimates of the silver coinage are available. Regarding Transvaal gold, there seems to be no means of forming an opinion. Authorities estimate the amount of Transvaal silver in circulation at from £170,000 to £200,000. Of this about £80,000 is supposed to be in the coffers of the banks, and from £100,000 to £120,000 in circulation amongst the public. This leaves about £150,000 to be accounted for, much of which is supposed to be held by the farming community, natives, and curio dealers in different parts of the world. The question arises, what is to be done with what may be called the live coinage? It would be a comparatively simple matter to withdraw the gold in circulation, since its face and intrinsic values are practically identi-

DESIGN FOR MEDAL COMMEMORATING THE PROGRESS OF AVIATION.
First Prize, $30.00. John Schrieber, Artist.
Prizes Offered and Medals to Be Issued by the Chicago Numismatic Society.

cal. But the silver coinage is a far more difficult problem. With silver at its present value, 5s in silver coinage is said to be probably worth little more than 2s intrinsically. To exchange Transvaal silver coinage for British silver at par would, therefore, involve the Union Treasury in a loss of over £100,000. If, on the other hand, this silver is allowed to circulate until it simply disappears, the loss will fall upon the public, though the process would be so slow and silent as to be scarcely noticed. The suggestion is made that the Pretoria mint might be revived, but it is pointed out that the saving which would thereby be effected might not equal the minting charges. It seems, at any rate, open to question whether there would be a saving.

ACKNOWLEDGED WITH THANKS.

News clippings from Messrs. Chas. K. Warner, George Burton and J. de Lagerberg. We certainly appreciate the interest displayed in the Monthly by our readers, and we endeavor to be worthy of same by always being watchful and taking advantage of every opportunity to give our readers a most interesting Numismatic Journal. But no matter how diligent our labors may be, the best results can only be obtained through co-operation. We are at all times only too glad to hear from any of our readers who may care to offer suggestions which may tend to in any way improve the Numismatic Monthly.

Pattern Coins

THEIR BEAUTY AND INTEREST TO THE COLLECTOR OF UNITED STATES COINS.

By EDGAR H. ADAMS,

In His Catalogue of the Woodin Collection of Patterns.

Now that the government by its recent action in restoring to Mr. John W. Haseltine the lot of patterns taken from him last year has established a clear title to pattern pieces, collectors may acquire such coins without the misgivings and uncertainty that formerly attended such purchases. Among the duplicates of Mr. Woodin there are many rare and interesting specimens that will grace any cabinet. Nearly all of these pieces are in proof

UNITED STATES PATTERN COINS.

The Rare Commercial and Indian Princess Dollars. The Ring Dollars, and the Interesting $10.00 "International Coinage."

[Plate from the Star Coin Book.]

Design Awarded Second Prize, $15.00. Irma Buck, Artist.
For Medal Commemorating the Progress of Aviation in 1910.
To Be Issued by the Chicago Numismatic Society.

condition. It is indeed seldom that a pattern piece is found in other than proof condition, which makes the pattern series so attractive to collectors.

There is no better time to buy patterns than right now, for their interesting character and the extremely limited number in existence—the commonest of which are usually scarcer than many high-priced coins of regular issue—will make them highly desirable, and prices must soon be forced by competition to a high plane. It is not unreasonable to predict that patterns will advance in value at least 100 per cent. within the ensuing year.

It is scarcely necessary to bring to the attention of collectors the interesting nature of a representative series of the pattern coins that have been issued at the United States mint since 1792 up to 1888, when their sale was prohibited at the mint. These coins embrace many projects of coinage and numerous designs, some extremely artistic and beautiful, the work of nearly every one of the engravers who have been employed at the parent mint, principally William Kneass, James B. Longacre, William Barber, Anthony C. Paquet, Charles E. Barber and George T. Morgan.

No collection of United States coins can be regarded as at all representative that does not contain at least a number of the pattern coins of the most striking and original design. To the colector of the regular series there

are several reasons why he should have a few pattern pieces, for these in many instances represent the first use of the design or inscription or motto that afterward was embraced on the regular coin issued for circulation. This is true of the copper half dollar, dated 1877, which shows the design of the Morgan standard dollar, both obverse and reverse, one year before its adoption, and on a coin of different denomination. Again, we have dollars, half dollars, and quarters dated 1863, 1864 and 1865, all with the motto "In God We Trust," having been issued as patterns several years before the adoption of the motto on coins of regular issue. The five-cent nickels of 1882 embrace not only an interesting series of designs, but on one of them is the exact obverse and rare reverse design adopted in 1883, the "nickel without cents," the most celebrated coin ever issued at the United States mint.

In the case of the pattern metric double eagle we have one of the handsomest coins of the denomination ever made, and likewise attractive as being illustrative of the plan of Dr. W. W. Hubbell to have the government issue coins struck in an alloy of gold, silver and copper. There are, perhaps, not over four specimens in either gold or copper of this piece, which met the hearty approval of the Congressional Coinage Committee, but was not adopted as the mint officials pointed out clearly that the use of the goloid metal was impracticable.

Many of the patterns in this list were issued for a special purpose, such as the ten-cent piece, of large size, dated 1868. It was intended to issue ten and fifteen-cent pieces of this size in base metal with which to redeem fractional paper notes. The plan failed of adoption and now the only record of the project is this large copper-nickel coin.

Still another example is the 1874 Dana Bickford ten-dollar piece, intended as a model coin for international use. A sensible plan, but which fell by the wayside, as have so many similar coinage projects.

Interesting coins are not always rare or high-priced, fortunately, and it is possible for a colector now to acqure these pieces at what in years to come will be regarded as extremely low prices, for reasonable as the coins are in price they are extremely limited in number, and opportunities for acquiring specimens will not be presented very often hereafter.

MEHL'S NEXT SALE

B. Max Mehl is now preparing for auction sale the collection of Rev. Samuel M. Morton, of Mitchell, Indiana, together with other consignments, in all making a most important sale of ancient and modern coins, with a fine collection of United States coins, representing all the series and mints, with many great rarities. Catalogues will soon be ready, and may be had free of charge. If not on mailing list, a postal will bring you the catalogue when issued.

Another sale of equal importance will be held soon after the next sale. There is still room for a good, average consignment. Anyone having anything he desires to sell to good advantage will do well by writing for terms.

NEW ISSUES.

NETHERLANDS—This country has recently issued new varieties of the 10 and 25c pieces. The obverse bears the bust of Queen Wilhelmina, facing to left. Legend, "Wilhelmina Koningin der Nederlanden." Reverse, a wreath within which is 25 cents, 1910, in three lines.

The above information with rubbings of the coins, thankfully received from Guttag Bros., bankers, New York.

Third Prize, $5.00. Elmer Torry, Artist.
Contest for Design for Medal Commemorating the Progress of Aviation.
Prizes offered by the Chicago Numismatic Society.

FOR THE PHILATELISTS.

Sale of stamps not for postal ,but for collectors' use is quite an item of revenue in some foreign countries, and even the British postoffice receipts are no doubt augmented at times by the purchases of philatelists. Since the death of the late king and pending the introduction of the new George V stamps, there seems to have been several interesting changes in the shades of the color of some of the stamps, although the alterations have been effected without notice. Of the 2d the color has varied in respective issues from lightest green to a dark or olive green, which is the most recent color. The differences in shade and printing are easily distinguishable. It would appear that in respect of these shades some of the philatelists have been "caught napping" and there has been much inquiry here and there for different specimens. The lighter shades have, however, become practically obsolete and are not easy to obtain. Then the 1½d stamp has also assumed a darker hue. Lilac varieties seem to be scarce, the more recent issues being of a decided purple. The 2½d blue and the 1d rose red have occasionally become fuller in color. Unused copies of the 4d green and brown, which were superseded November 1 by the 4d orange have also become rare.—London Post.

Denford Numismatic Society

Howard, coming into the room, shook the snow from his coat, and said: "It's certainly warmer in here than it is outside. I am pretty near frozen, and the only thing that saved me was that last auction sale."

"How did the auction sale help you?" he was asked.

"Well," was the reply, "I got to thinking of some of the coins I got from it, and I soon grew warm; but with the New Year ahead of us I hope for better things."

"You are old enough now," said Hill, "not to expect every lot you secure to turn out a surprise packet. Years ago I bought some tickets in the Louisiana lottery; the third ticket brought me a minor prize—it satisfied me. I never bought another."

"Faint heart never won a rare coin," said Jennings. "For my part, I prefer to buy my coins from a sale, if the cataloguer is fair in describing the condition of the coin, and most cataloguers are, the collector has a chance to secure coins that it would be impossible to obtain in any other way."

"I don't know so much about that," said Hill. "There are some dealers who keep pretty large stocks, and, today, by writing to them, it is possible to secure nearly any coin you may want. I have found it so, anyhow."

"That is all right," replied Jennings, "so long as you apply to the proper man; there are dealers and dealers, most of them are all right, but—save me from the amateur dealer."

"What in the world is an amateur dealer?" asked Hill.

"An amateur dealer is a collector with more or less knowledge of coins—generally less—who buys all his coins at auction sales, and then divides them up and offers them at sacrifice prices to his less enterprising collecting friends. Of course, he is a NUMISMATIST, there can be no doubt about that—we have his own word for it—but all the same he is a nuisance, and should be avoided. I grant that it is possible to secure most coins that we want by applying to a regular dealer—but give me the auction sale every time."

"If you want a 1793, 1799 or 1804 cent, or a Montreal side view they can be purchased from a half dozen dealers, but if you want Irish half penny of 1684, or the Barry of Halifax token (Courteau 343) you must wait for your chance in an auction sale. Not a dealer in America could supply the pair on demand, yet I got both from a sale last year, and I have been trying to get the 1684 Irish half penny for the last ten years."

"Edmond de Goncourt, the famous collector, was of this opinion, as the following extract from his will shows:

"'My wish is that my drawings, my prints, my curiosities, my books, in a word, these things of art which have been the joy of my life, shall not be consigned to the cold tomb of a museum, and subjected to the stupid glance of the careless passed-by; but I require that they shall all be dispersed under the hammer of the auctioneer, so that the pleasure which the acquiring of each one of them has given me shall be given again, in each case, to some inheritor of my own tastes.'

"I think de Goncourt was correct in the view he took. There is a pleasure in the acquiring of each coin—a pleasure that is unknown to the man who purchases an entire collection. I once met a man who had purchased three entire collections, and when I asked him if he had a certain coin, he could not tell me; he expected he had, but really he did not know what he had."

"That reminds me," said Howard, "of a man who got suddenly rich and had a large house built for himself. Of course, he had a library, and when it was finished he wrote to a bookseller and ordered books enough to fill 700 feet of book shelves. But I quite agree with you that a man to be a real collector must know every coin he has—they are something more than mere coins to me—they are friends, and they speak in a language all their own—of days long centuries past.

"It is a good plan to have a list of the coins one has. I keep one and enter its approximate cost and value, and date acquired. I was looking over it last night and found that I had spent just under $100 on coins during 1910—but every coin is a coin and worth its cost. Needless to say, I did not purchase an 1804 dollar.

"Most of my purchases were ancient bronze. These never lose their interest to me. In Everyman's Library is included 'An Atlas of Ancient and Classical Geography' with full index. The book contains twenty-seven maps showing all parts of the world known to the ancients. With this aid I can find any place I want, and I do not believe in a man having a Greek coin and not knowing to what continent it belongs.

"Any man can collect cents, and all he needs to study the die-vars is a few old coin catalogues; but ancient coins require a library to be properly understood and valued.

"One ancient, however, has no charm or interest for me. It is a Chinese razor coin, dating from B. C. 400. It is five and a half inches long. It is certainly not ornamental, and I doubt whether it would be of any use even if it were possible to put an edge on it, but I shall keep it ready for Chicago—for I should simply hate to go there without a good weapon."

THE JAPANESE YEN.

When the public reads that 100,000,000 yen has provisionally been set apart by Japan for war purposes, it may perhaps put an exaggerated estimate on that amount. Although Japan has a gold standard, the yen is of silver currency, and fluctuates with the price of silver, so that at the moment 100,000,000 of them means scarcely more than $50,000,000. But even this is an immense amount in a country in which the wages of a skilful artisan are often not more than three yen a week. The Japanese currency system is decimal. Thus the yen, or dollar, is divided into one hundred sen, or cents; the sen into ten rin, the rin into ten mo, the mo into ten shu, and the shu, finally, into ten kotsu. Government accounts do not take note of any value smaller than a rin, but estimates by private tradesmen often descend to mo and shu, which are incredibly minute fractions of a farthing. No coin exists, however, to represent these lilliputian sums.

St. Louis Exposition Medal in Gold and Silver

In the course of our business, one of our clients asked us for a silver specimen of the St. Louis Commemorative Medal, and we were surprised to find that not a single specimen was to be had readily at any market. And, upon investigation, we find that not more than one or two specimens of this medal has been offered at auction since 1904.

These medals were struck by the Government in the Government building on the fair grounds; they were issued both in silver and bronze, the latter are rather common, and can be purchased for about 25 cents. The metal for those struck in silver, if we remember correctly, was supplied by Mexican dollars, and were first sold at $1.00 each, and then the price advanced to $1.25. We are unable to estimate the number of pieces struck in silver, but from their present scarcity, it seems that the issue was limited to the demand for them.

Our correspondent furnishes us with the interesting information that he possesses the only specimen of this medal that was struck in gold, and that the gold out of which this unique specimen was struck was owned by George B. Webster, of Seattle, Washington. Together with this gold specimen, our correspondent possesses a certificate of the Government Official in charge of the St. Louis Exposition coins, that it was struck on November 30th, 1904, and that it was the only one struck in gold, and after which dies were destroyed.

We should be pleased to hear from any of our readers who may be able to furnish further information regarding these medals.

FIRST MEANING OF DOLLAR.

Dollars appear to be regarded as essentially wicked coins by some people just now, says the London Chronicle. There was a time when they were minted in our own country. In March, 1797, the mint issued stamped Spanish dollars worth 4s 9d, but they were called in seven months later. It was from the Spanish coin that America got the idea of her almighty dollar, but the dollarphobe misses a point, surely, when he omits to mention that the very name was made in Germany. At least, "thaler," of which "dollar" is a coruption, was. The original thaler was the silver guldengroschen, coined in 1518 by order of Count Schlick from the silver of Joachimsthal, in Bohemia, and known at first as the "Joachimsthaler." Thus the name means etymologically "of the valley."

"The Numismatist Passes to the A. N. A."

Under the above heading in the December issue, Mr. Farran Zerbe, retiring editor-publisher of the Numismatist, the official organ of the American Numismatic Association, gives a short history of that valuable publication, and formally announces the transfer of the "Numismatist" to the American Numismatic Association.

Beginning with the January number, which is to be issued on the 25th of the month, the Numismatist will be under the management of Mr. Albert R Frey, of Brooklyn, N. Y., who will be editor-in-chief, while the business department will be managed by the General Secretary, Mr. George L. Tilden, of Worcester, Mass.

With the numismatic knowledge and ability of Mr. Frey, and the energetic efforts of Mr. Tilden, we feel assured of a most interesting and valuable official organ.

Mr. Zerbe is deserving of the appreciation of the entire membership of the A. N. A. for the efficient and unselfish manner in which he conducted the Numismatist, with much labor and without any personal gain.

From the time he acquired the Numismatist, he brought it up to a standard both typographically and numismatically, satisfying the fondest hopes of the most ardent well wisher of the A. N. A. His views on every numismatic topic, have been as fair and just as his interest for the welfare of the American Nmismatic Association is ever unceasing. B. M. M.

THE NUMISMATIC OFFICE BOY.
Drawn for Mehl's Numismatic Monthly by E. C. Verkler.

The Chicago Numismatist Society

The eighty-fourth monthly meeting of the above named society was held in their rooms, 1622 Masonic Temple, Friday evening, January 6th, President Harry F. Williams presiding. The following members were present: Messrs W. F. Dunham, V. M. Brand, Simpson, Excell, Leon, Vercourter, Baker, Williams, Loer, Wilson, Davis, Kelly, Green, Verkler and Nelson. The resignations of Messrs. C. V. Jaeger, No. 16; Chester Dunham, No. 75, and Joseph A. Kelly, No. 154, were received and accepted.

Mr. E. C. Verkler, as chairman of the Committee on Medallic Production, reported that he had received estimates for making the aviation medal from the Medallic Art Co., Whitehead, Hoag & Co., Gorham Manufacturing Co., and C. R. Barber. Samples of medallic work from the first three named were shown. After considerable discussion a motion was carried that only as many medals be struck in silver as there were subscriptions for same. It was moved and carried that the entire matter of the aviation medals be referred to the Medallic Committee with power to act, and that the number of bronze medals be limited to 200.

The following officers-elect for 1911 being present, were installed:

President—Harry F. Williams.

Vice-President—F. Elmo Simpson.

Secretary—Ben G. Green.

Treasurer—T. E. Leon.

Librarian—E. C. Verkler.

Executive Committee: V. M. Brand, Ben G. Green and F. E. Simpson.

Hugh M. Clark was elected to membership.

The President appointed the following committees for 1911:

On Medallic Production: E. C. Verkler, F. M. Tuckerman and Virgil M. Brand.

On Membership: J. T. Kelly, F. J. Loer and Edward Michael.

Under exhibitions Mr. Leon showed five varieties of the $50 slug; Mr. Jacobs some Chinese coins, and Mr. Brand two Japanese obans, a 100-ducat of Bohemia, an oblong strip showing two impressions of the thaler of Bohemia, one-sixth ore of Sweden on oblong strip from which two pieces had been punched, a five-thaler of Austria on a square planchet, one-fourth and one half pence of Griquatown, a broad and crown in gold of Charles I of England, and an uncirculated United States half-dollar of 1796.

The following magazines were received since last meeting: Elder Monthly for October, and Mehl's Numismatic Monthly, Philatelic West and Spink's Circular for December; two auction catalogs from Elder and one each from Hess, Low and Schulman, and a catalog with fixed prices from Egger Brothers.

Messrs. L. B. Casagrande and A. B. Jacobs were present as visitors.

Adjourned to meet February 3rd, 1911.

BEN G. GREEN, Secretary.

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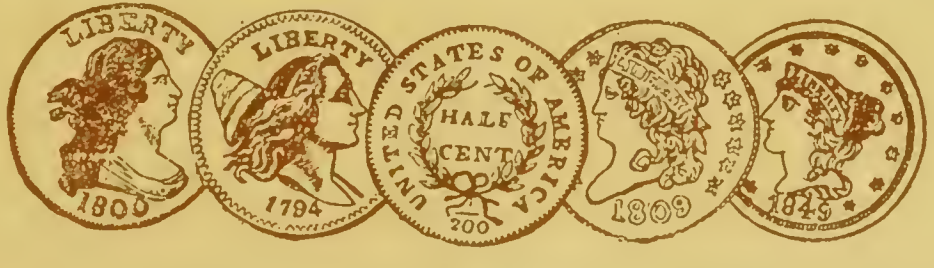

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Mehl's Numismatic Monthly

Vol. IV. FORT WORTH, TEXAS, MARCH, 1911 No. 3

Newspaper and Magazine Clippings pertaining to Coins thankfully received. Contributions from those interested in the Science solicited and liberally paid for

NUMISMATIC BY-PATHS

How to Enhance the Value of a Collection

By B. H. SAXTON.

Of late years "intensive cultivation" has received much well-deserved attention, and its importance and possibilities are only partly appreciated as yet. In a word, it is putting the thing considered upon a capacity basis, for the simple reason that the value is there and should be utilized. The field of many collectors may be small, but all the more reason for making worth while its cultivation to an intensive degree. It is unlikely one would care much for a book printed in a language entirely foreign to him: it would be little more than a meaningless jumble of words; there is no interest, no knowledge, consequently no enjoyment. No one would collect coins or medals unless he derived pleasure therefrom, and the pleasure is in direct proportion to his understanding of the pieces he owns; this being true, it follows that unless he gets all possible information, directly or indirectly concerning them, he misses much of the pleasure he might otherwise have. Why is it that the average non-collector looks upon a coin, no matter of what country or period, merely as upon an odd piece of metal? Because he looks at it with uninformed eyes—curious, perhaps, but totally without appreciation, for it carries no suggestion to him, much less a definite meaning. Some so-called collectors differ only in degree in this general unappreciativeness, and usually through their own fault. A little "intensive cultivation" would reveal unexpected interests and multiply the pleasures of collecting.

The details of the method to be pursued must be settled by the individual, but the following suggestions for cataloguing a collection might be followed with profit. Take a loose-leaf cover, holding a sheet about 5¼x8, and index first as to periods (ancient, medieval and modern); then as to countries; sub-divide this into metals, with a further sub-division as to values, or different issues, as preferred. The loose-leaf system will allow necessary re-arrangement, and the keeping of all "live" matter together in its proper order despite the addition or disposition of pieces. It will also permit the records to be typewritten, adding much to the appearance of the catalogue.

Now, suppose we take a coin of Hadrian. This will, of course, come in the "ancient" division, under "Rome." The following is only a suggestion of how much may be included in even a brief description.

HADRIAN. 117-138 A. D. First Bronze. Dark patination.

Obv. HADRIANUS AUGUSTUS. Laureate head to right.

One of the "Five Good Emperors." Born during the reign of Vespasian. Spaniard by descent, of the same city where Trajan was born, and whose nephew and successor he was. Upon the death of Trajan was proclaimed Emperor while at Antioch as general of the forces of the East, and through an artifice with assistance of Trajan's

widow, Plotina, importing that he was the late Emperor's adopted successor. Reign marked by many radical reforms in jurisprudence and civil administration. Military operations were chiefly defensive rather than offensive. A great builder, highly educated, an artist and musician of no mean ability, whose long reign of twenty-one years and eleven months was one of remarkable prosperity. Shortly before his death adopted Antoninus Pius. The death of his wife, Sabina, occurred one year before his own. Probably the most celebrated full-length statue of Hadrian is in the British Museum, and easily proves the fidelity of the portrait on the coin.

Rev. Roma seated to left, with military trophies at her feet, holding in outstretched right hand winged figure of Victory extending laurel wreath. COS III. Below, S. C.

Roma was one of the lesser divinities. Her worship originated not in Rome but was the object of outside dedications under the Republic. Became fully regarded as a State divinity at the time Hadrian erected the great temple of Venus and Rome in 128.

While the foregoing sketch of the ruler who issued this coin and of the mythological significance of the reverse type is exceedingly brief, it implies

FIRST BRONZE OF HADRIAN.
The Obverse bears the bust of Hadrian Augustus.
One of the "Five Good Emperors."

more or less research, and cannot help calling to mind a more extended knowledge of this Emperor and of his place in Roman history. The collector beholds the coin with an ever fresh interest; Hadrian seems more a real personality, and the divinity to whom Victory is offering the wreath is not a pointless fancy of the engraver, but conveys a message of the deeply-rooted religious beliefs of ancient Rome.

The crown series of foreign silver is replete with intense and varied interest. A complete set of any country is an epitome of its life, crystalized into imperishable form; a condensed library, as it were, and each piece a volume in itself; sometimes beautiful, often of striking significance, always worth while. Let us see what, for instance, our catalogue might contain on an English crown.

CHARLES II. 1660-1685 Crown, 1662 (first year).

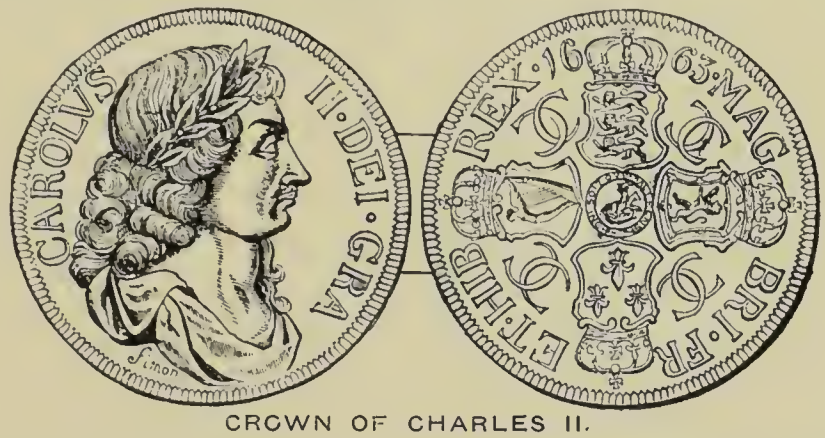
Obv. CAROLUS II DEI GRA (Charles II [King] By the Grace of God). Laureate bust to right. Bust draped. Below, rose.

Charles Stuart, born 1630, was restored to the throne after nearly twenty years of the Commonwealth, during which he was in exile, principally in Scotland and France. Principal events of his reign: His marriage (1662) to Catherine, sister of the King of Portugal. The great plague (1665) in which over 100,000 perished. (See Pepy's **Diary** and Defoe's **Journal of the Plague Year**). The burning of Lon-

don (1666); loss estimated at over $36,000,000. Medal struck in commemoration of the plague and fire: eye of God in center; two comets, one showering pestilence, the other fire; east wind driving the flames. In foreground, Death encountering armed horseman. Legend, SIC PUNIT (So He Punishes). Triple Alliance formed (1668). The Dutch Wars (1664-65 and 1672). Death occurred February 6th, 1685.

Reign marked by religious and political persecution, open and secret leagues with France, royal violation of the laws, unbridled extravagance of the court, and a general lowering of the moral tone of the nation from that so rigidly upheld in the time of Cromwell. While Charles at the time of his restoration to the throne probably was held in greater esteem than any of his predecessors, he proved to be irresponsible and profligate, without conscience, religion, honor or justice.

The rose below bust said to indicate silver taken from the mines in West England. Bust copied from a drawing made by Cooper for this purpose on January 10th, 1661.



CROWN OF CHARLES II.

the center, the Star of the Order of the Garter. Two C's inter-linked in the four angles. 1662. MAG. BR. FRA. ET HIB. REX (King of Great Britain, France and Ireland).

Edge inscribed DECUS ET TUTAMEN (An ornament and a safe-

Rev. Four crowned shields arranged crosswise. First and third, England and France, quarterly; second, Scotland; fourth, Ireland. In guard). First appearance of this edge inscription. Suggested to the Master of the Mint by Evelyn, who had observed it in a vignette in the Cardinal de Richelieu's Greek Testament.

Dies of this issue engraved by John Roettiers, who was born in Antwerp (?) in July, 1631, the year following the birth of Charles II. One of a family of medallists who distinguished themselves as such for nearly two centuries. Invited by Charles to England in 1661 to work in the English mint. It is claimed (Walpole) that his father had lent money to Charles during his exile and had been promised employment for his three sons. Contemporary with Thomas Simon, engraver of the famous "Petition Crown" and was, after his design was preferred to that of the latter, appointed in May, 1662, as one of the Chief Engravers of the mint. Produced also many splendid and important medals throughout this reign. Died in 1703.

Of course, where several values, types or varieties of coins issued by the same ruler are noted the historical data need not be repeated, but only the facts given which relate to the differences; there will be an abundance of these.

The weight, size and condition of the piece can be added if desired, also the circumstances of purchase.

There is little need of continuing the illustrations; the same principle, with necessary modifications, may be applied to any series of coins worth collecting. The writer realizes that the work involved in carrying out such a plan with a collection numbering its pieces by hundreds or thousands would be monumental; but this is written more for the collector who has and can afford but comparatively few coins or medals, and he of all others should be most anxious to get all the genuine pleasure possible out of his modest accumulation. True, it will mean many hours of study—but they will be delightful; it will mean research in libraries—but there are few better places; it may mean an investment in books and journals—buy them, and be glad of the privilege.

If the collector who has paid little or no attention to the many-sided character of his coins will seriously attempt in this way to know them intimately, he will not be long in discovering that he and they had really been strangers all the while—or at best no more than mere acquaintances. At one time the mythological figure of Roma was to him only a figure; now he understands the significance of the type. Once a silver crown of Charles II was but an old English crown, dated 1662; now he knows who and what Charles Stuart was, the historical events of his reign, and the personal history of the engraver. Are not these two coins, common though they may be, of far greater interest to him than ever before? He has, by getting in touch with the past, acquired a custivated appreciation which reveals their true worth as nothing else could do. He has discovered the **better side** of numismatics, and the real value of his collection has been enhanced a hundred-fold.

A TEST OF COINS.

An allow of one-tenth copper is used in making coins to harden them and make them more fit to withstand the constant rubbing they must undergo in the pockets of their owners. In England the amount of alloy is less—only one-twelfth. Recently a controversy arose among the mint officials of London as to which coins, English or American, would last the longer. In order to put the matter to test, two small cylinders were fixed on a revolving rod, and one filled with United States and the other with British coins. All of the letters, milling, reading, etc., were worn from the English coins twelve hours before they were totally erased from the American coins.

ROMAN MINT FOUND.

A completely equipped Roman mint was discovered in a cave in the neighborhood of Kayosovar, Hungary. Besides crucibles, which still contained bronze, there were three dies for the production of gold coins, dies of silver, bronze and iron ore and three hundred coins. The investigation made showed that the workshop dated from the first century of the Christian era. A number of neatly worked earrings, barcelets and other objects of bronze, as well as tools, such as hammers and tongs, were also found.

MOST ENCOURAGING SIGN.

"What," asked the reporter who had been sent out to interview Benjamin J. Bunker, the new Napoleon of finance, "do you consider the most encouraging sign of the times?"

Taking out his pencil and deftly illustrating his remark, Mr. Bunker replied:

"This—$."

"I feel grateful for the many good pointers the Numismatic Monthly has given its readers the past years."

HYMAN BAERS.

$5 Gold Certificates

One of Treasurer McClung's Ideas—Why New Silver Coins Are Scarce.

The ins and outs of Government finance were recounted by United States Treasurer Lee McClung in a recent address. Mr. McClung treated his subject for popular interest. He explained the origin of our various paper moneys and said that he hoped to recommend to Congress this winter the issue of five-dollar gold certificates. The mint at Philadelphia is working twenty-four hours a day to turn out token money, pennies and nickels, and can not keep pace with the demand for them. New coins of larger denominations are wanted by stores, banks and hotels for their holiday trade, and they can be accommodated in gold coins, but it hardly seems reasonable to coin more silver merely for the sake of new coins, since there is silver enough coined already. The Government is required to coin a certain amount of gold, no matter how much is on hand and in circulation.

Mr. McClung described his methods of saving for the Government in the redemption of damaged paper money. Up to eight months ago damaged paper was expressed from the various Sub-Treasuries to Washington for maceration as money in paper packages. It is now cut in halves before sending and can go as cancelled securities at a much lower expressage. Since it costs a cent and a half to replace an old bill with a new one the Department is now experimenting with machines that will launder many of the old bills and make them usable again at a cost of but one mill apiece. This, Mr. McClung thinks, will save the Government $1,000,000 a year, even though the cartoonists are making fun of him for it.

MOST GUARDED TRADE SECRET.

As every one knows, the process of manufacturing the paper of which bank notes are made is one of the greatest of all trade secrets.

It is known only to the Governor of the Bank of England and to three other persons intimately connected with the industry, which is carried on at Overton, a quiet little village in Hants. All that the outside world is allowed to know concerning this precious paper is that it is made, amongst other ingredients, out of charred husks and Rhenish vines.

Quite as profound a secret is the manufacture of both the paper and the ink used for American bank notes. The former has the double advantage of not only being a secret preparation, but one that only "takes" one particular kind of ink—which is quite unique, the American Government paying the manufacturer, who alone possesses the secret, the sum of $50,000 a year for making it.

PIRATE'S COINS.

The doubloon, that famous coin of romance, is still in circulation. The Isabella doubloon—worth $5.00—still remains current in Cuba. The doubloon is so-called because when first coined it was double the value of a pistole, that is, it was worth $8.00. The name was given later to a double doubloon current in the West Indies. Pieces of eight, with which every reader of "Robinson Crusoe" is familiar, are also in circulation. They are simply Spanish dollars of eight reals. A doubloon dated 1787, there are said to be only six of that date in existence sold some years ago for $6,200.00. J. de L.

AN OLD BANK NOTE.

The oldest bank note in the world is now in the British museum. It was printed in China in 1368. This was ninety-two years before the birth of Gutenberg, the inventor of printing in Europe.

The New British Coinage

By J. ARMSTRONG FOSTER.

Apart from the head of King George on the obverse of the new coinage, from the design of Mr. Bertram Mackennal, no alterations or modifications can yet be announced, except that the reverse of the florin will be altered. At any rate, the reverse of the sovereign, the shilling, and the halfpenny will be the same as at present. New designs, of course, require the Royal approval. In all probability, the first coin of the new issue which the man in the street will see will be the halfpenny.

The reason for this and the misconception which exists to a considerable extent on this matter in the public mind were explained recently to a Daily Telegraph representative in the course of information elicited at the Royal Mint. Some people do not understand why, as soon as a new monarch comes to the throne, the new coinage does not appear. The issue of coins depends on the demand for them, and George V. copper coins will not appear till the stock of Edwardian copper coins at the Mint has disappeared. The Bank of England is the distributing agent for gold and silver, though the Mint issues silver direct to the Colonies. A fallacy still exists with regard to the relative rareness of pennies of the year 1864. The old fable that these coins contain an appreciable proportion of gold is still accepted as gospel by some people, who believe that by mistake some gold was that year mixed with the copper. These worthy folk appear at the Mint from time to time with little hoards of these pennies, expecting to receive a substantial sum for them! The fact is that such a mistake never occurred, but that, owing to the large stock of pence at the Mint at the time, it was only necessary to issue a comparatively small number, and pennies of that year became rather uncommon. At present there are about ten tons of pence at the Mint, which must be absorbed before the new coins are issued. The Mint's stock of halfpence, on the other hand, has been very much depleted, and these coins will therefore probably, for the reasons stated, be the first to appear. Specimen coins will be issued by the Mint in three sets.

OBVERSE OF THE NEW BRITISH COINS.

The half-sovereigns have not yet

been delivered to the Bank of England, but the sovereigns will be delivered there very shortly. The proclamation for the issue of the silver coins is not out yet, but will probably appear very soon.

In the coins which marked the accession of the late King, the most notable alteration on the reverse side—apart from modifications in the half-crown—was the appearance of the "lion shilling." Shillings of William IV., with a somewhat similar reverse, are still occasionally circulated. It takes many years, of course, to eliminate coins from circulation. The Britannia four-penny-piece, for instance, has not been issued since 1856, but specimens are still occasionally found in circulation. Coins struck before 1816 are what is called demonetised—that is to say, they are withdrawn from use. It is interesting to note that this year marks the centenary of the Royal Mint in its present building. It was formerly in the neighboring Tower of London.

THE NUMISMATIC CHEF.
The fifth of a series of drawings by E. C. Verkier.

Annual Meeting of the United States Assay Commission

Dr. J. M. Henderson, President of the American Numismatic Association, Appointed by President Taft, Member of the Assay Commission.

Following the old custom inaugurated in 1823, the assay commission, which tests and examines coins of the United States, met in Philadelphia on February 8th, to perform their annual task. The commissioners are required to see that the coins made by the four mints of the nation are in die conformity with their standard of fineness and weight. The coins are selected from the various mints and sent to Philadelphia.

The members of the commission are appointed for one year, but in reality perform about one week's work. The commission consists of the judge of the United States District Court for the eastern district of Pennsylvania, the comptroller of the currency, the assayer of the New York assay office and other persons appointed by the president.

Established in 1823.

The history of the commission dates back to the establishment of the first United States mint, at Philadelphia, in 1823. Its ex-officio officers were the judge and the district attorney for the eastern district of Pennsylvania, and the appointees of the president. Since that time, the commission has tested and examined every year.

The test coins are picked indiscrimiately from each delivery of coins that are made to the superintendent of the mints by the coiner At last one coin is selected from every delivery of 1000 gold coins, and one out of every 2000 of silver coins. These test coins are deposited in a "pyx" designated for the purpose at each mint, and kept under the joint care of the superintendent and the assayer. From the local mint they are sent to the Philadelphia mint, where they are received by the commission.

Three Committees.

After having been divided into three committees—counting, weighing and assaying—the commission will proceed to count, weigh and assay. Later a report will be formulated and sent to the president, in which the judgment of the commission will be found. It includes the reports of many discrepancies found, and may comprise resolutions expressive of the opinions of the commission upon the conduct of the mints.

Standard of Weight.

The standard of weight, which is specified in the statutes regulating the work of the commission, is brass troy pound weight. It was obtained in 1827, three years after the establishment of the commission, by the United States minister to London, for use in the Philadelphia mint. From this standard measurement the standards of coins minted in the United States are taken.

In the examination of the coins, the commissioners make what is known as a "tolerance," or allowable difference of weights above and below the standard set for coins, and a deviation from standards in fineness. The amount of "tolerance" and deviation vary with the various kinds of coins.

Besides the designated members who make up the commission to test the coins this year, President Taft appointed twelve other members. These men are usually selected because of their interest or knowledge of the subject.

Proceedings of the Meeting.

After being formally called into

session by George B. Roberts, Director of the Mint, the twenty-one members of the committees broke into sealed packing cases and began the handling of silver and gold coins.

The coins under test were from the Philadelphia, San Francisco and Denver Mints. The test is an annual one and the commission which makes it is appointed by the President of the United States and reports directly to him. The President looks over the report and then gives the details to Congress.

The commission works on a strictly scientific basis. The counting committee sees that there are one or two coins, as the case may be, picked from every thousand that has been started into circulation. Then the coins are weighed. Large gold pieces must weigh within a half-grain of the government standard. Smaller gold coins within one-quarter of the grain.

In silver the commission is not so particular. One to one and a half grains light or overweight is allowed in the larger coins. Chemical tests are made to determine the amount of gold and silver and alloy in each coin.

The members of the commission that were present were George R. Cummings, assayer, United States Assay Office, New York; Joseph F. Johnston, of Alabama, United States Senate; O. L. Branson, Mitchell, S. D.; James H. Manning, Albany, N. Y.; Horace L. Wells, New Haven, Conn.; Thomas W. Hardwich, Georgia, House of Representatives; L. A. Fischer, Bureau of Standards, Washington; Dr. J. M. Henderson, Columbus, O.; James P. Kimball, former Director of United States Mint, Red Lodge, Mont.; Dr. John A. Mathews, Syracuse, N. Y.; Charles F. Rourke, Urbana, Ill.; Dr. Owen Louis Shinn, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia; Dr. Arthur L. Walker, New York.

The members of the commission not present at the opening session were: John B. McPherson, Judge of United States District Court, Philadelphia; Laurence O. Murray, Comptroller of the Currency, Washington, D. C.; John W. Hart, Menon, Idaho; Col. Frank A. Leach, former Director of the United States Mint, Oakland, Cal.; A. G. Proctor, St. Joseph, Mich.; Dr. Rollin D. Salisbury, Chicago, Ill., and William McAleer, former Congressman, of Philadelphia.

THE BRITISH NUMISMATIC JOURNAL.

The sixth volume of the journal of the British Numismatic Society has just been received by the American members of the Society. It is in keeping with its excellent previous issues and contains a wealth of most interesting numismatic literature, especially pertaining to the coinage of the British. The plates illustrating the hundreds of varieties of coins and tokens and the many portraits, some of which are in colors, are in themselves works of art. Much praise is due Messrs. Andrew, Carlyon-Britton and Lawrence, the gentlemen whose great knowledge of the science and their intelligent labors are responsible for this excellent volume, which is the most highly prized of all current numismatic publications.

According to information received from the authorities of the United States mint at New Orleans, there has been no coinage at that institution for 1910. The mint at Denver coined half dollars and dimes, but no quarters. And the mint at San Francisco coined quarters and dimes.

"Enclosed you will please find my renewal for the Monthly. I have been busy just lately, therefore am a little late in renewing. I have, however, no idea of dropping the Monthly. I value it much too highly and it is such big value for the price. I still believe it to be the best thing of its kind published in America."

JOHN A. WOOD,
Canada.

Discovery of a Unique Gold Coin of Alexander the Great

Details are to hand of the discovery of what is believed to be a unique gold coin of Alexander the Great—a relic of the Macedonian conqueror's three years' Indian occupation. Alexander issued money from numerous places, and examples of both his European and his Asiatic coinage are, of course, well known, but the present find differs from all other recognized types. According to an interesting description in the Englishman, the coin bears on the obverse "the head of Alexander facing the proper left, and wearing an elephant's scalp. It is now well known that the wearing of the elephant's scalp instead of the usual helmet or 'kansia' indicated either a raid into, or the occupation of, a portion of Ariana or India. Thus, we find that Demetrius, the son of the Bactrian King, Enthydemus, signalized his conquest of Northern Ariana by issuing silver coins, on which he is figured as wearing the elephant's scalp. The earlier Greek conquerors of India prized the possession of elephants over and above everything. This is shown by the zeal with which Alexander enforced his demand for elephants from the vanquished Indian princes." It is no longer doubted that Alexander established a mint in India during his three years' stay, 330-327 B. C. The square bronze coins are so rare that even the Indian Museum does not possess a specimen. They are to be found in the cabinets of a few private collectors of Indian coins. The new coin is thus unique, both as to its minting and as to its type.

But, the writer points out, of still greater interest is the fact that the coin bears the oldest Kharosthi inscription discovered up to date. This script was the direct development of the ancient Aramaic and was introduced into India during the Persian domination. Official documents during the Achoemnian occupation of Afghanistan and Northern India were written in it, and continued to be so till the middle of the second century. The characters on the coin are slightly archaic in form, and differ from the forms employed in the inscriptions of the rock-edicts of Asoka. On the reverse is the figure of winged Victory, which is so very common on the gold issues of Alexander and Selukus Nicator. To the left of this figure are four Kharosthi syllables, a, la, sa, dda. The corecting reading of these four syllables led to the final assignment of this coin to the great Macedonian conqueror. It is discovered from the Pali literature that the Indo-Greek King Menandor was born at Alasadda or Alexandria. Alexander the Great founded several cities in India, and named them after himself. Menandor must have been born in one of them, and the Pali form of the name tallies remarkably well with the legend on this coin.—"Daily Telegraph," London.

"Enclosed find $1.00 in payment for two years' subscription to the Numismatic Monthly. The best journal relating to coins published. I do not see how anyone who is interested in coins can afford to be without it."

CHARLES H. DYGERT,
New York.

WANTED.

We desire to purchase copies of the February, 1909, Numismatic Monthly. We will pay 15 cents each or if desired, give in exchange any other back number which we may have in duplicate.

Half Eagle and Half Dime

Two Finds of Rare Coins Made by Collectors in 1910.

One of the record premiums for coins paid in 1910 was $800 for a five dollar gold-piece made by the assayer Christopher Bechtler, who for at least twenty years conducted a private mint in Rutherford county, North Carolina. The price is all the more remarkable when it is considered that thirty years ago such coins were not even worth their stamped value.

It is its unique design that gives this coin its high value. It is thought to have been the first coin of the denomination made at the assayer's office. It is a good deal larger than the regular United States five dollar gold-piece and does not at all resemble it in design.

On the obverse, around the border, is inscribed, "C. Bechtler, Assayer." In the centre of the field, in the form of a circle, are the words "Rutherford County." The reverse contains the inscription, in three lines, in the field, "5 Dollars, 20 Carats," while around the border is "North Carolina Gold."

The weight of the coin is 145 grains, although the five-dollar piece of the United States of the period weighed only 135 grains, but the Government's coin was of much greater fineness, and it is probable that the Bechtler coin had a value not in excess of $4.90, as the gold of which it is composed was strongly alloyed with silver.

This coin came to the notice of collectors for the first time last year and was regarded as the best preserved example of the Bechtler coinage known. The design is similar to that of the other very rare Bechtler five dollar gold-piece; in fact, the new variety differs from it only in the omission of the inscription "150 Grs." which appears just below the line "20 Carats." The coin containing the weight in grains has a premium record of $785, but there are at least fifteen specimens known.

Among other finds made by coin collectors in 1910 was still one more specimen of the tiny silver half dime of 1802, which date is by far the rarest and highes in price of any coin of the denomination. All the 1802 half dimes are held at a high premium, while an unusually fine specimen brings an extraordinary sum. A specimen which was only very fair brought $400 at a sale last year in this city. High priced as are the 1802 half dimes, they are not really excessively rare, for there are at least sixteen specimens known. But the old time collector held the piece in the highest esteem, and this estimation has been maintained by collectors of the present day. The mint records show that 13,010 silver half dimes were made in 1802, and why they are now so rare cannot be explained.

The silver half dime probably owes much of its special interest to the fact that it was the first coin of any denomination to be regularly made at the United States Mint in 1792, when experiments were being made with designs for the new coinage. Dies were made for a half dime that represented an original design of striking character and quaint inscription.

On the obverse was a female head of Liberty, said to have been modeled after that of Martha Washington, but which by no means flattered her. Around the border was "Lib. Par. (Liberty Parent) of Science & Industry." On the reverse was a poorly executed representation of a small flying eagle, underneath which were the words "Half Dime," and around the edge "United States of America." The coin was made of silver and had a diameter about equal to that of the present dime.

These half dimes were struck in October, 1792, from the new coining presses that had just come from Eng-

land. Owing to the scarcity of silver bullion Washington is said to have furnished some of his private plate, which was used to make the half dimes.

It is estimated that the plate given by Washington amounted in value to about $100, and this metal was all used in making the little silver pieces, a number of which President Washington is said to have presented as souvenirs to his friends and acquaintances.

Nearly all the early half dimes are scarce and are held at a substantial premium, especially those struck from 1792 up to 1805. None was issued in 1798, 1799 or 1804. In 1805 half dimes were made, but from 1806 to 1828 inclusive none was issued. Coinage of the little silver pieces was resumed in 1829 and continued regularly each year until 1873, when the denomination was discontinued.

The highest premium ever paid for a half dime was $705, which was given at an auction in this city for what was said to have been one of the best specimens of 1802 known.

NEW YORK SUN

Montreal Numismatic Society

At the regular monthly meeting of the Numismatic and Antiquarian Society of Montreal, held on the 20th of January, R. W. McLachlan exhibited some 125 Canadian coins, medals, tokens, chapter pennies and advertising cards added to his collection during the year 1910. These were mainly issued during the years 1909 and 1910, with one notable exception—the rare die variety of the W. L. White farthing described by Dr. Courteau in his "Coins and Tokens of Nova Scotia," No. 363, about which he states: "I know only of one specimen to be in existence."

Mr. McLachlan read a paper entitled "Biographical Notes on Alfred Sandham." This sketch stated that Mr. Sandham was born in Montreal in 1838 of Yorkshire parentage. Although his school days were not prolonged, he qualified himself while earning his living to become Secretary of the Young Men's Christian Association. He early imbibed the collecting instinct, and, like most young collectors, collected almost everything collectible, and while Secretary of the Association his collection became a veritable museum of natural history, besides antiquities, stamps and coins. But after a time, discarding all other branches, he settled down as a coin collector. He was a most successful collector, having the faculty of getting together a collection that would take an ordinary collector years to secure. In 1869 he published his chief numismatic work, "Coins, Tokens and Medals of Canada," to which he added a supplement in 1872. Mr. Sandham had considerable artistic taste and illustrated his works by his own drawings. He published some six other numismatic books or pamphlets and designed and issued some nine medals, all of which were described and exhibited by Mr. McLachlan.

The American Numismatic Association's Official Organ

The American Numismatic Association can at last pride itself in the possession of its own Official Bulletin. Beginning with the January issue the "Numismatist" became the property of the American Numismatic Association and is being published by the Association under the able editorial and business management of Messrs. Edgar H. Adams, George H. Blake and Albert R. Frey as editors, and George L. Tilden, the Secretary of the Association, as business manager.

The initial number contains a number of interesting short articles and notes on current numismatic topics. The slight deterioration in the typographical appearance from the issues of the last two volumes is easily overlooked by the abundance of interesting material and the fact that it is the initial effort of the new management.

A radical change in the report of the Association is the omission of the addresses of applicants for membership in the Association. No reason is given for this change; and we are informed that the change is not in keeping with the wishes of the President. In absence of any official information on the subject we are unable to advance any reason for this change, but undoubtedly it will be explained in an early issue.

The A. N. A. has considerably prospered in the past few years along advanced lines, and as long as the Association can boast of gentlemen who willingly give their time and experience for the advancement of the Association, we have just cause to feel assured of a most successful future, both for the American Numismatic Association and the science it fosters.

A MUCH NEEDED BOOK SOON TO BE ISSUED.

We are informed by Mr. W. W. Bradbeer, an expert on Confederate Currency, that he has in preparation a book on the Currency of the Confederacy. With the extensive knowledge and a most complete collection of the currency at his command we do not hesitate to advance a guess that the book will be all that could be expected, especially since, we are informed, that it will contain a number of illustrations. The collecting of Confederate currency has not been as extensive as its historical interest warrants. We believe that the lack of interest is due to the lack of literature on the subject. But with a good, authentic book on the subject, we venture to state that both he inerest and value of the Confederate currency will increase considerably, especially so in the rarer types.

A large number of coin collectors are more or less interested in the sister hobby, Philately. These have undoubtedly noticed the active campaign the Springfield Stamp Club (Springfield, Mass.) is now waging for the 1912 convention of the American Philatelic Society. Mr. John M. Oliver, an active member of the club, also a member of the A. N. A., sends us one of the attractive "Stamps" issued by the Club to advance their campaign for the 1912 convention. Their intelligent and persistent campaign deserves success. And the S. S. C. has the best wishes of the Numismatic Monthly.

The Chicago Numismatic Society

The 85th monthly meeting of the above named Society was held in their rooms, 1622 Masonic Temple, on Friday evening, February 3rd, President Harry F. Williams presiding. The following nineteen members were present: Messrs. Carey, Dunham, V. M. Brand, Simpson, Excell, Leon, Edward Michael, Vercouter, Holmes, Baker, Williams, Loer, Krausz, Lewis, Kelly, Green, Verkler Lamson and Nelson. The resignation of Mr. Christian Sorensen was received and accepted. The Curator-elect, Mr. M. P. Carey, was installed into office and read his annual report. Mr. V. M. Brand reported the death of Mr. Otto Darmstaetter, an active member, and the President appointed a committee consisting of Messrs. Baker, Excell and Green to draw up suitable resolutions on his death. The President announced the resignation of Mr. Dunham, Chairman of the Convention Finance Committee, and appointed Mr. T. E. Leon in his stead. Messrs. Alfred B. Jacobs, Edward Johnson, Louis C. Tonsley and V. O. Wilcox were elected to membership.

On motion it was ordered that the Treasurer report at next meeting all members in arrears for dues for more than one year and that the Treasurer should notify all such delinquents of this action. A motion was carried instructing the Executive Committee to renew the lease on present quarters for two years from May 1st.

Under Exhibitions, Mr. Brand showed an original bag of Maundy money; 32 1/32 ducats of Regensburg; pattern set of the Batavian Republic dated 1800, of which there are only four sets; a pattern crown in gold of George III of England by Wyon; hard times tokens No. 85 in white metal and No. 161. Mr. Leon showed a one hundred dollar bill of the National Gold Bank of San Francisco.

Magazines received since last meeting were: The Numismatist for December and January and Mehl's Monthly, Numismatische Correspondenz, Spink's Circular, Numismatischer Verkehr, Giornale Numismatico and Philatelic West for January. Auction catalogs from Adams (with plates), Green, Low and the Dr. Stroehlin Sale at Geneva, Switzerland (from Spink & Son). Catalogs with fixed prices from Majer and Steigerwalt; and a priced catalog from Low.

Messrs. Townsley and Wilcox were present as visitors.

Adjourned to meet March 3rd, 1911.

BEN G. GREEN, Secretary.

"Enclosed please find fifty cents for renewal of my subscription to the Numismatic Monthly. I think it is the best work of its kind that I have seen, and wish you every success with it." E. W. BARTON.

The Matter of Buying and Selling Coins is a Very Serious Business With Me.

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$4.00 "Aut mors aut vita decora,"—Either death or an honorable life ..... .50

$5.00 "Sustine vel abstine,"—Sustain or abstain..... .40

$7.00 "Serenabt,"—It will clear up..... .50

$8.00 "Majora minoribus consonant,"—The greater ones scund in harmony with the smaller..... .50

$20.00 "Vi concitatae,"—Driven by violence..... .50

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Issued by the varicus "Original Thirteen States." All notes with Autograph signatures; some printed in two colors.

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EDITED AND PUBLISHED BY

B. Max Mehl

NUMISMATIST

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Mehl's Numismatic Monthly

Vol. IV. FORT WORTH, TEXAS, APRIL, 1911 No. 4

Newspaper and Magazine Clippings pertaining to Coins thankfully received. Contributions from those interested in the Science solicited and liberally paid for

Two Counterstamped Coins of the Republic of Peru.

By "Portuguese Joe."

Among the coins of South America which are of interest to collectors of necessity or officially counter-stamped pieces are those of the first issue of eight reals of the Republic of Peru, which were subsequently counter-stamped by the Royalists before the independence of the country was finally established.

The piece is illustrated here, and further description is unnecessary. The counterstamp consists of a large crown, with the date 1824 below. The first issue of the Republic's eight reals was in 1822, and the counterstamp is found on pieces dated that year and also of 1823. In a sale catalogue in 1905 one of the pieces was offered with the statement that the stamp was always found on the obverse (as in the illustration here), but on the specimen offered it was on the reverse. The pieces are rare, and the few time I have seen them offered in sale catalogues they have been accompanied with the statement that they were restamped by General Canterac of the Spanish Army while besieged in Lima by the Peruvians, or else merely by the statement that they were restamped by the Royalists.

It is not my intention to attempt to prove that they were not stamped by General Canterac while so besieged, but an authoritative history of the war places Canterac in the field during the entire year of 1824, though Callao Castle near Lima was held by the Spanish and was in a state of siege during the year. Callao Castle is about eight miles north of Lima. It faces the sea, and has two round towers, with two smaller towers rising from them, and has often been compared to an ink tray with two bottles upon it.

Jose Canterac was one of the boldest and most resourceful of the Spanish generals. He was born in France in 1775, and had been in the Spanish army in South America since 1815. In 1818 he went to Peru to assist in quelling the revolt there, and later became lieutenant-general and commander-in-chief of the Royalist forces. After the close of the war in Peru he returned to Spain, and was killed in 1835 during a mutiny in Madrid.

In a description of this piece it is unnecessary to go into details of the events leading up to and during the war, but mention of a few of the more important ones will not be out of place.

General Don Joachim de la Pezuela was the forty-fourth and the last of the legitimate Spanish viceroys of Peru. When Jose de San Martin entered Peru, in January, 1821, with the intention of liberating the peo-

ple, the generals of the Spanish army were irritated and discontented with the indecisive stand taken by the viceroy, and they feared that negotiations might be opened with San Martin which would be prejudicial to their interests. A few days later a letter was addressed to the viceroy, signed by Canterac and half a dozen other generals of the Spanish army, requesting him to resign and deliver his command to General Don Jose de la Serna. The letter amounted to a deposition, and as the authors of it were leading the army, Pezuela had no alternative and abdicated, and de la Serna was named by the generals as his successor. Early in July, 1821, the Royalists decided to evaeliberated Venezuela and New Granada from the Spanish yoke he was ambitious to add to the luster of his name by the liberation of Peru. In July, 1822, an interview was held between Bolivar and San Martin, and the former offered his aid. The latter was a patriot, without personal ambition, and he saw there was hardly room for Bolivar and himself in the same sphere of action, and he retired. With the election of a Congress, a provisional government was formed, which conducted the affairs of government for nearly a year. Early in 1823 Don Jose de la Riva Aguero was chosen as first President of the Republic.

Bolivar made his entry into Lima

Eight Reals of Republic of Peru, Counterstamped by the Royalists, 1824.

uate the coast, and La Serna garrisoned and provisioned Callao Castle and evacuated Lima. On July 9, 1821, San Martin entered the city.

The independence of Peru was proclaimed at Lima on July 28, 1821, and a few weeks later San Martin was declared protector. Early in September, Canterac marched to Lima and entered Callac Castle, still in a state of siege, without interference by San Martin. Canterae's presenee there was unnecessary, and only increased the difficulties of the garrison, and he returned to the field a few days later. On September 21 the Castle surrendered to San Martin.

After General Simon Bolivar had

on September 1, 1823. Callao Castle was at that time in possession of the Peruvians, and was held by them until February 7, 1824, when a mutiny among the garrison broke out. The mutineers imprisoned the Governor General, Alvarado and other officers. A Royalist prisoner, Colonel Casariego, was made Governor, and the Spanish colors were hoisted on the 18th. A letter was then dispatched to General Canterac, who was then in the field, inviting him to take possession of the city, but it does not appear that he attempted to comply, and on March 3, General Monet, with a Royalist division, entered the Castle.

Eventually General Rodil was left

as Governor, Monet returning to the field.

Bolivar evacuated Lima when the Royalists got possession of Callao Castle. In July he began a march over the mountains in quest of the enemy under Canterac, and in the Battle of Junin, on August 6, badly defeated him. General La Serna, the viceroy, had established himself at Cuzco, where there was a well-appointed arsenal. Cuzco was the last stronghold of Spanish power in South America. After the Battle of Ayachucho, in December, 1824, in which the Spanish forces were again badly defeated, Canterac sued for peace and a capitulation was signed.

As Callao Castle was the only point in the neighborhood of Lima held by the Spanish during 1824, and as the Spanish viceroy, La Serna, had established his headquarters at Cuzco early in the year, that city being practically the only city held by the Royalists at that time, it is possible that the counter-stamping of the Republic's coins was done in that city. This seems all the more probable when we consider that during 1824 there was a small issue of eight reals and reals at Cuzco by the Royalists, which are very rare. They bear a laureated and draped bust of Ferdinand VII., are dated 1824, and have the Cuzco mint mark.

Another interesting counterstamped piece is the one illustrated here, issued about 1850, when Nicaragua, Honduras and San Salvador formed an alliance or confederation for their mutual benefit, and created a currency by counterstamping various coins with a design consisting of a small circular depression containing three mountains with the rising sun above them. This counterstamp is found on various silver coins of South America, principally Peru, including the cob money, and also of Mexico. It is found on some of the smaller silver issues, but occurs principally on the eight reals or pesos. The majority of the pieces so issued contained but this single stamp, but a few others also bear an additional counterstamp on the other side of the coin (like illustration) of similar proportions, containing a star, quiver, bow and arrow.

Eight Reals of the Republic of Peru, Counterstamped for Use in Nicaragua about 1850.

In an interesting work by E. G. Squier, formerly Charge d'Affaires of the United States to the Republics of Central America about 1850, entitled "Nicaragua: Its People, Scenery, Monuments, Etc.," written about 1860, he makes mention of the confederation of the three States named above, from which I make the following excerpts:

"While Nicaragua remained under the Spanish crown it constituted one of the provinces of the ancient Au-

dencia or Captain-Generalcy, sometimes called the Kingdom of Guatemala, in which were also included the provinces of Costa Rica, Honduras, San Salvador and Guatemala. The large province, now State, of Chiapas, included in the Republic of Mexico, also belonged to the old kingdom of Guatemala. After the independence it was appropriated by Mexico, which, under the rule of Iturbide, endeavored to annex to itself the whole of Central America. These threw off their allegiance to Spain in 1821, and in 1823 united in a confederation called the 'Republic of Central America,' which, however, in consequence of internal dissensions, was dissolved in 1839. Since that time the several States have asserted and exercised their original sovereign powers as distinct republics. Several attempts have been made at brief intervals to revive the confederation in whole or in part, but without success, owing to the irreconcilable jealousies of the different States. During the month of November, 1850, the Commissioners of Honduras, San Salvador and Nicaragua were in session in the city of Leon, and agreed upon the basis of a union of these States. The arrangement looked to an immediate or speedy consolidation, for the purpose of conducting the foreign relations of the country, leaving it optional with the States of Guatemala and Costa Rica to accede to the compact. This policy was opposed by the old aristocratic or monorchical faction. In Hondruas in the month following they attempted a revolution, with the view of preventing the contemplated union, but they signally failed in the end, notwithstanding that they had the countenance and support of the British officials in the country, who at this time, both in Costa Rica and in Guatemala, by publictaions and otherwise, not only denounced the whole plan of federation and what they called the 'American policy,' but threatened to break it down whenever its organization should be attempted."

Coins of one country bearing the counterstamp of another country exist in great numbers, but coins bearing two or more counterstamps of different countries are uncommon. In a sale catalogue of December, 1908, there was offered a piece of eight reals of the Republic of Peru, of 1822, with the counterstamp of the Royalists in 1824, and subsequently counterstamped with the two designs above mentioned for use in Nicaragua—a piece containing the three counterstamps described in this paper. Commenting on the piece the cataloguer says, "Highly interesting and rare," an opinion in which I heartily concur.

To an Ancient Coin

By B. H. SAXTON.

Thou coin of bronze! Imperishable link
Between the present age and that forever past;
Struck in imperial times, when ancient Rome
Sat proudly on her seven hills and ruled the world.
The years have come and gone
And mounted into centuries; and yet
These centuries are naught beside the future.
Thou hast served thy purpose well.
Teach us also the lesson of integrity,
Of lives unsullied by surrounding strife; aye, more—
That when our own brief day is closed, its passing
Is not the final measure of our destiny.

THE COST OF GOLD.

People are apt to forget in contemplating the enormous output of gold in the past sixteen years, the cost in wasted capital and misdirected labor that was required to produce it, or more strictly speaking, they are not thoroughly acquainted with the cost. It has been seriously contended by a distinguished American mining engineer that so far as the nations are concerned the rewards flowing from the search for gold are utterly out of proportion to the cost of obtaining it. He maintains that when the waste of prospecting, experiments that bring no result, deep level mining machinery, expensive to install and too costly to run, are considered, along with other money-scattering processes, it probably costs the world about $2 in capital and effort to secure $1 in gold.

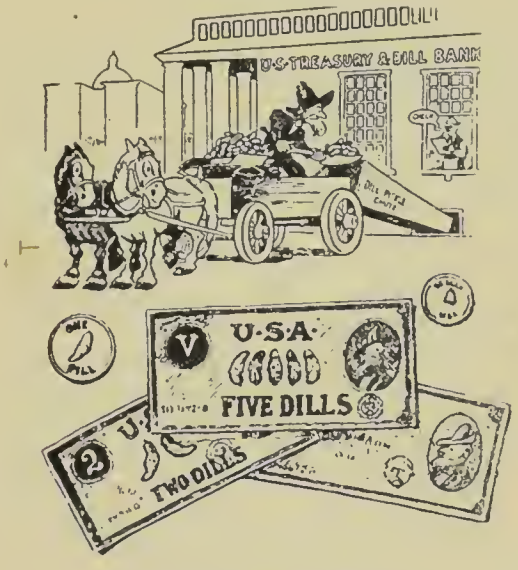
Be this as it may, and the contention seems plausible, those who strike it rich reck not of the misdirected labor of others and care little for their own past fruitless toil—they are too busy realizing on the fruition of their avaricious dreams.

Certain it is that by modern improved processes and machinery a larger amount of gold can be obtained from a given quantity of ore or auriferous sand than was at all possible fifteen or twenty years ago; but according to the outgiving of the Johannesburg chamber of mines, the cost of producing gold in the Rand is not declining. As veins are explored more deeply the cost of producing the ore steadily advances, and this is only a fraction of the expense; and what is true of South Africa is true of the remaining gold workings of the world.

In this connection the fact is noted that the output of gold from Alaska is slightly decreasing. This is no doubt due to the causes heretofore mentioned, and the time is approaching when the production of gold from other workings will begin to fall off. It is possible, of course, that virgin deposits may be discovered at any time, for prospecting is as earnest and feverish in unexplored territory as in the early days of Placerville or Nome, but in the nature of things the production of gold must turn because the processes of nature are slower than the activities of man.

NEW BRITISH MONEY ISN'T SATISFACTORY.

London, Feb. 11.—The first samples of the new silver coinage are far from being satisfactory. The shilling is the chief coin just issued from the Bank of England, and there is only one slight improvement to be noticed. The lettering is more distinct than upon the King Edward money. In every other respect it is disappointing. It would appear that the die has been much too heavy. In fact, the impression of the King's head is seen quite distinctly on the reverse side. Nor is the milling as clean as it might be. It is said that the results may improve as the minting proceeds.



"DILL MONEY."

Professor Norton of Yale university declares that gold has lost its usefulness as a money standard, because of its changing value, and that some new standard is therefore necessary. He suggests that the new standard be called "dill;" which causes the cartoonist on the St. Paul Pioneer Press to see visions of "dill" money, as pictured in the foregoing cut.

Denford Numismatic Society

"April will be quite a month for coin sales," said Hill. "I have half a dozen catalogues already, and no doubt there are more to come yet. There are plenty to choose from these days—coins of every country and period—from 2000 B. C. to last year."

"Where does the 4000-year-old coin belong," said Blake, "that is a pretty old one, and I had no idea that coins existed in those early days."

"Neither had I," replied Hill, "but I saw a cut of it in an European catalogue—I should call it a token rather than a coin. It was one of the spade-shaped ones and belonged to the Hja dynasty of China—the metal is brass, but whether it really is as old as was claimed, I know not—the Chinese series is unknown to me."

"Well," said Blake, "I do not want it; I can find quite enough in our own and the Canadian series to keep me busy—and eat up all the money I have to spare."

"It seems to me," said Hill, "that the average collector cares only for U. S. coins, mint marks and straight U. S. Cents. The few who collect otherwise collect for the most part in as narrow lines and take absolutely no interest in anything else. Hardly anyone in this country cares a rap for the science of numismatics in general, or for that matter understands it at all, therefore we have no common ground to meet upon."

"But there is one line on which we could all meet, and that is the coins of the English-speaking race; that line alone will lead us all over the world."

"The early British coins are a connecting link with the Greek series, collectors and students of one or the other meet upon common ground."

"The Roman coin of Britain connect us with the Roman series—both Imperial and Colonial. Take the large bronze of Antoninus Pius with the Britannia reverse. I do not expect ever to be fortunate enough to have one of these in my collection, but I would rather own such a coin than have the finest 1804 dollar that was ever faked inside, or outside, a U. S. mint."

"That is all right," said Herman, "but all of us are not of British descent, you forget that."

"Well," replied Hill, "you may give the place of honor in your cabinet to the large bronze of Domitian—the one with the 'Germania Capta' reverse. I care not to what country you owe your descent—only go back far enough and you will land in the Roman series—and we can all meet there on common ground, no matter from what country in Europe or Asia our forefathers came from, you are in direct touch with Rome.

"The Emperor Hadrian caused a series of 44 first bronze pieces to be struck to commemorate his arrival in the different provinces through which he made a progress—all of these coins bear the reverse legend—'ADVENTVI AVG.' and in addition, the name of the province visited. The reverse type is always the same, the Emperor standing to right and Britannia (or other province) standing to left, sacrificing at a lighted altar behind which lies an animal as a victim. The province is personified as a woman, holding a patera and a reed.

"The first allusion to Britain on a Roman coin occurs on those of Claudius (41 to 54 A. D.). His silver and gold are particularly interesting, as bearing records of the final subjugation of Britain, and of the triumphs decreed by the Roman Senate on that occasion. The few coins known of Britannicus Caesar, a son of Claudius, are of great value.

"The Emperor Commodus was ambitious of the surname of Britannicus; and after some victories over the Caledonians by the Roman commander in Britain, he assumed that name on his coins, though he never personally visited the island.

"On the reverse of a coin of the war, loving Septimus Severus, who died at York, in 211 A. D., we find the proud legend, 'VICTORIA BRITTANICAE,'

REVERSES OF ROMAN BRONZE COINS ISSUED FOR OR IN ENGLAND.

Fig. No. 1, Reverse of Claudius. 2 and 2, of Hadrian. 4, 5, 6, of Antoninus Pius. 7, 8 and 10, of Commodus. 8, of Septimus Severus.

and two winged victories, attaching a circular buckler to a palm, at the foot of which are captives."

"Caracalla, a son of Septimus, issued coins with similar reverse and legend; and Geta, another son, had the name of Britannicus awarded to him by the

Senate in consequence of his share in the victories of his father over the north Britons.

"In the reign of Diocletian, the first Roman mint was established in London, and we find the mint mark P.LON. on coins of this and several following Emperors. The coins of Constantius Chlorus, who died at York in 306, have no letters of this description.

"It was at York also that Constantine the Great was proclaimed Emperor by the troops, in 306. Gradually Constantine overcame his rivals, and became sole Emperor of Rome. We find also coins of Maximinus Daza, Fausta, Crispus, Constantine II., and Constaintius II., with English mint marks.

"But of greater interest than these are the undoubtedly British coins of the usurper Carausius, a bold soldier, who in the reign of Maximianus, taking advantage of holding the command of the Roman fleet at Boulogne, escaped with it to Britain, where he succeeded in ingratiating himself with the people, and grasping the sovereignty of the island. He successfully defied the whole Roman power from A. D. 287 to 293, when he was assassinated by his minister, Allectus, who succeeded to the supreme authority in Britain, which he held for three years—until defeated by the Romans with great loss, Allectus himself perishing in the conflict."

"It is all very well," said Blake, "to talk about these Roman British coins, but they would run into a lot of money—some of us have other things to buy besides coins; we are not all rich, you must remember."

"I know that," replied Hill, "but there are many of the small bronzes with British mint marks that can be purchased for from fifty cents upwards, and far better put your money into a few of this series than invest it in such things as Corean coins—or Siamese porcelain tokens, or brass beer checks—and modern store cards.

"The coins following the Roman series are but one chapter of the history of the dark ages. In no series can the line be confined to Britain and Ireland alone. The Danes, the Normans and others draw them to the Continent. The English claims to France, Burgundy, Aquitaine, Hanover, etc., bring forth the efforts of the student not only of England, but of the continent also. The British colonies scattered all over the world offer a wide field for the collector to wander in, and a selection of this series is full of interest and instruction for all."

"I must confess," said Jennings, "that there is a good deal in what you say concerning the Roman British series; my mother was born in York, but I have never connected the coins of Septimus Severus, Geta, or Constantine the Great with that city; and yet these coins are really a sort of home series to me, and no doubt there are many collectors in this country whose ancestors came from Yorkshire and who should be really interested in these coins. I shall remember this and as the opportunity offers add a few of the less expensive ones to my collection. Just as well have a few of these historical coins as have tray after tray full of nothing but U. S. cents, with nothing but the mere date to distinguish one from the other. The great trouble with the American collector today is this: he buys a cent because it is a variety different from any he has, and he puts it in his cabinet, and there is an end to it, but a few coins, such as Hill has been speaking of, afford opportunities for thought and study, all of which is beneficial to us. The man who loses all interest in a coin when he places it in his collection will never become a real collector—and real collectors, collecting intelligently, are wanted today."

Some Curious Treasury Notes That Have Circulated.

By a Special Contributor.

It may be said without any exaggeration that 90 per cent. of the cash-handling world does not discover the freak legal-tender notes which occasionally get into circulation. This does not apply to counterfeits, but to notes that are at first glance genuine, yet which, upon closer inspection, prove to be so glaringly imperfect. Sometimes these notes get into circulation before being put through their completed process by the dishonesty of an employe of the government's paper-money printing establishment; sometimes, with imperfections in printing, they pass the vigilance of Uncle Sam's inspectors in that same institution, but although by both means the cases are rare, the notes that have leaked out have passed through many hands, and in most cases have returned to the Treasury's inspectors before they have been discovered.

One of the most remarkable cases of the purloining of legal tender occurred at the Bureau of Engraving and Printing in the Spring of 1900. To all appearances the paper money which leaves this institution is completed, but this is not the case. The seal which makes it legal tender is not placed on it until it is issued for circulation by the Treasury Department, and it really requires but a casual glance to note the imperfection.

When this money is prepared for delivery to the Treasury it is packed in bundles of 1,000 sheets, each of which contains the print of four notes. After the last count is given them at the Bureau of Engraving and Printing the bundles are sealed, placed in the vault, and held subject to the order of the Treasury Department. When they are called for issue they are sent to the Treasury, counted, separated, and the Treasury seal and denominational number stamped on them, which, on notes of $5 and under, is blue in color, from $10 up, pink, and on gold notes, yellow.

An employe of the bureau found an opportunity to extract four sheets of $10 notes, a total of $160, between the final count and the sealing of the bundles. In order to make the notes passable without attracting the least attention, he soaked them in water and when nearly dry rubbed them between soiled hands. When the notes finally dried, they looked as if they had been in circulation for many months.

The process of spending was easy. The employe changed them as quickly as possible into legal tender, and did not in so doing once arouse the least suspicion among the storekeepers. Five weeks later the first note appeared at the Treasury, having been accepted by a Washington bank, passed undetected through the bank employe's hands, and sent to the Treasury for redemption because of its worn appearance. Its defects were not discovered in fact until it reached the redemption division of the department. The remaining fifteen notes passed through probably as many hands, and would no doubt have returned to the Treasury in the same manner had not their defects been advertised.

In the early years of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing two $50 bank notes with $100 backs slipped through the examiner's hands and passed into circulation. It was not until they had reached the bank for which they were intended in Kansas City that the defect was discovered, but only, however, after one of them had been given out in circulation.

That note had an interesting ca-

reer. It finally landed in a Western hotel clerk's hands, who, in making up his accounts one night, found a discrepancy he could not explain. In counting his cash, he turned each note over and deposited in a pile at his right. Counting from left to right, his money balanced his accounts precisely, but a check count during which he turned the notes on the opposite side, showed a shortage of $50. Two hours were thus consumed in a vain effort to find the trouble, but the defect still remaining, the clerk called the manager.

That official had no better success. Over and over again he counted the bills, but he, too, used the same method, and on one count the cash balanced while on the next it was short $50. The two men then examined each note separately on both sides, and the mystery was solved. One of the bills had the design of $100 on the back and $50 on the front, and to make it worse the clerk had received the bill as a $100 note.

The note was sent to the Treasury for an explanation, and for possible redemption at the greater value. The department already had record of the bill through the bank's notification. The Treasury's record stated that one place bore the reverse of a $100 note at the bottom and the opposite side of a $50 note at the top. The other plate contained the reverse of the two notes. After an impression had been taken from each plate, it was laid aside to dry before being run through for the reverse-side print. No one seems to have accounted for the way in which the pressman had not himself discovered the error except that he must have turned one sheep upside down. But two $50-$100 bank notes appeared, nevertheless, one with a $50 front and a $100 back, the other with a $100 front and a $50 back.

In the fall of 1893 the unusual case of the circulation of $1 silver coins, dated 1893, was discovered because they appeared at the Treasury in the course of circulation before they had been issued. This, however, proved nothing more nor less than a robbery.

In one of the vaults there were stored $1 silver coins of this same date. The coins were in heavy canvas bags which held 4,000, and were packed in heavy wooden cases, each containing five sacks.

During the early part of that year silver dollars of this same date came into the hands of the Treasury's bank tellers. The first conclusion drawn was that they were counterfeits, and they were sent to the proper division for examination. But the examiners pronounced them good money, and something was declared radically wrong with the machinery of the department.

A count was at once ordered, closely guarded by secrecy. Box after box was overhauled until, finally, the counters came upon a box in a far corner of the pile, one corner of which had been whittled away and a hole large enough to extract several coins at a time exposed. The bag immediately over this hole had been slit and tapped heavily, even though each employe who had access to the vaults was compelled to sign a register each time he made his entrance and exit.

Among the collectors there is an odd legal-tender note of 1860. The face of the note contains a portrait of Webster, and to the right is a representation of Rolfe presenting Pocahontas to Queen Elizabeth. There is a small eagle at the bottom. Upon inverting this bill the eagle presents a faithful resemblance to the head of a donkey. Whether this was intended by the engraver as a joke is not known, but the resemblance is so close as to indicate premeditation on his part. The latest $10 note known as the buffalo note presents the same oddity.

The $10 legal-tender bills of the present series, together with the $1, $2 and $5 silver certificates, have been printed with what are known as in-

verted backs. This, however, was the result of an error, as the fronts were made inverted by mistake. These bills have become very valuable among collectors.

The engraver of the plate for the 1880 silver certificates caused several errors in the design of those notes.

A Treasury seal is found on those notes entirely different from any ever used by the department. The key, which is one of the most important symbols of the seal, shows a handle at the left-hand side instead of at the right, as on all others. The stars are larger and the shield is of different shape. The two ends of the band surrounding the symbols are fastened with a buckle, which in no other case plays a part in the design of a Treasury seal. This is the only issue of notes on which the peculiar seal was used, and collectors of paper money include them among the errors or freaks.

The Second National Bank of Ravenna, O., has another curiosity in a $1 note. This lacks the signature of both the president and the cashier, although it was circulated and never challenged.

The First National Bank of Fall River, Mass., has a similar curiosity. A $1 note of that bank also lacks both signatures, which seems not to have interfered with its being offered and accepted as money. Still another $1 note of the First National Bank of Indianapolis, Ind., is minus the signature of the president only.

These errors or omission are slight, but they give additional value to such bills in the eyes of collectors of paper money. They are glad to pay a premium for them.

GOOD PRICES REALIZED FOR ALL GOOD COINS AT MEHL'S MARCH SALE.

On March 11th, B. Max Mehl sold at auction the collections of Rev. Samuel M. Morton, and Mr. T. J. Lynch. The sale consisted of over one thousand lots, among which were some very scarce pieces.

The following are some of the prices realized at the sale:

$10. 1804 Fine	$ 30.00
$10. 1907 St. Gaudens Second issue, only 50 coined	150.00
$5.00 1795 Extra fine	25.00
$5.00 1808 Uncirculated	11.00
Gold dollar, 1864 About unc.	25.00
1853 Moffat & Co. $20. About Unc.	42.00
Carolina gold $5.00 Three varieties sold for	100.00
Russia, Platinum Three-Ruble piece, Unc.	12.25
Silver Dollar, 1836 Proof	25.00
Half Dollar, 1794 Good	3.50
Half Dollar, 1795 Fine	4.00
Holf Dollar, 1802 Fine	9.25
Half Dollar, 1815 Very fine	4.50
Half Dollar, 1836 Milled edge. Fine	3.00
Half Dollar, 1847 About proof	3.25
Half Dollar, 1852 Unc.	3.50
Half Dollar, 1861 O. Mint	3.15
Quarters, 1796 Very fair	3.00
Quarters, 1806 over 5. V. G.	2.00
Quarters, 1853 without arrow heads. Unc.	13.65
Quarters, 1804. Good	4.00
Gold Dollar, 1868 Proof	9.00
Cents, 1793 Wreath. V. G.	10.00
Cents, 1899 Very fair to good	27.50
Cents, 1804 Very fine	30.00
Cents, 1821 Extremely fine	5.75
Cents, 1856 Flying eagle. Dull proof	9.85
Confederate Re-Strike Half Dollar. Very fine	10.75
$10. 1875	32.50
$50. Gold, 1851 Incused edge.	215.00

A complete list of the 1052 lots, showing amount realized for each lot, may be had for only 25c.

ANOTHER SALE, consisting of the collections of Messrs. W. G. Mateer and Henry Birkeland, containing a fine lot of United States and Foreign coins, many very rare and interesting specimens, will be sold on April 22nd. Catalogues now ready. If you have not already received a catalogue, a post card will bring you one. Address B. Max Mehl, Fort Worth, Texas.

The Chicago Numismatic Society

The 86th monthly meeting of the above named Society was held in their rooms, 1622 Masonic Temple, Friday evening, March 3rd, President Harry F. Williams presiding. The following eighteen members were present: Messrs. Carey, Dunham, V. M. Brand, Brenner, Simpson, Excell, Leon, Vercouter, Jochem, Holmes, Baker, Williams, Loer, Davis, Green, Verkler, Nelson and Dr. Merrill. Mr. R. T. Brewer was present as a visitor. Mr. Edward T. Newell was transferred from active to corresponding membership.

The committee on resolutions on the death of Mr. Otto Darmstaetter submitted the following, which was adopted:

Whereas it has pleased an all-wise Providence to take from his family a beloved husband and from us an esteemed member, Mr. Otto Darmstaetter, and

Whereas, by this death we lose an old and faithful member, one who joined with us in the early and trying days of our organization and who remained faithful unto death; therefore be it

Resolved, that the Chicago Numismatic Society tenders the bereaved wife of our deceased members our sincere sympathy, and be it further

Resolved, that these resolutions be spread upon the minutes of our Society and a copy thereof be forwarded to the widow.

MITCHELL BAKER,
I. EXCELL,
BEN G. GREEN,
Committee.

Messrs. E. R. Stephens and Harry W. Labey were elected to membership.

Under exhibitions, Dr. Merrill showed a line of early U. S. gold and Mr. Brenner proof trade dollars of 1884 and 1885, the latter being the first one ever having been seen by any of the members present.

Magazines received since last meeting were: Elder Monthly for January; Mehl's Monthly, Spink's Circular, Philatelic West and Numismatist for February. Auction catalogs from Elder (2), Green, Hess and Mehl. A catalog with fixed prices from Boudeau and a priced catalog from Low.

Crosby's work on the Cents and Half Cents of 1793 and the Mint Report for 1910 were added to the Library.

Adjourned to meet April 7th, 1911.

BEN G. GREEN, Secretary.

THE BOSTON NUMISMATIC SOCIETY.

A meeting of the above named Society was held in the Old State House at 3 p. m. March 10, the president in the chair. The following were present: Dr. Green, Messrs. Joy, Bird, Tilden, Shumway, Wood and Ruge. Mr. Ruge was elected to membership at this meeting.

Mr. Tilden showed a couple of the dollar pieces of Iturbide of Mexico. Mr. Bird, an uncirculated Washington, Liberty and Security penny, and a 1799 over 1798 cent. Mr. Wood showed a collection of over 200 Japanese medals and badges, many of which were commemorative of war, besides two governmental medals given to the soldiers in the Russo-Japanese and the China-Japanese wars.

HOWLAND WOOD, Secretary.

SPECIAL NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS.

During the summer months, beginning with the May number, it may be necesssary for us to combine two months into one issue, but in so doing we shall make tht double numbers much larger than the usual issues.

Interesting and Historical Coins

FOR SALE CHEAP

ROMAN COINS RELATING TO ENGLAND

About 1600 Years Old

The following coins are all in good to about fine condition. They are all with the busts of the emperors. They are all of the third bronzes, and are very interesting to anyone, whether a collector of ancients or not.

CONSTANTINE I. (The Great)

Born 274 A. D.; named Caesar 306; converted to Christianity 311; made sole emperor in 323. Changed the name of Byzantium to Constantinople, which he made his seat of Government. Died in 337.
A set of two different coins of this emperor for only 50c for the two.

MAXIMIANUS HERCULES.

Born 250 A. D. Associated in the Empire with Diocletian in 286; gave to Constantine Chlorus the title Caesar; abdicated 305; retook the Empire in 306. Strangled himself in 310.
A coin of this Emperor, bearing good portrait. Scarce; each.....35c

CONSTANTINE II.

Born 316 A. D. Named Caesar 317; obtained, in the division in 333, Gaul, Spain and England; named Emperor and Augustus in 337; defeated and killed in 340.
Coins of this Emperor, Very good condition, each, 35c.

CARAUSIUS.

Emperor in 287. Assassinated in 289.
Coins struck in England, with his portrait; each, 50c.

LICINIUS I.

Born 263 A. D. Asociated with the Empire 307. Conquered and taken prisoner and strangled in 323.
Very good specimens, with fine portrait of Emperor; each, 40c.

CRISPUS.

Born 300 A. D. Named Caesar 317. Put to death by order of his father in 326.
Very good coin, with portrait on Obverse; each, 50c.

SPECIAL OFFER

A Set of Seven Different Coins, As Listed Above, For Only $2.25

SEND ME A LIST OF WHAT YOU WANT TO BUY OR WHAT YOU HAVE FOR SALE.

B. MAX MEHL

P. O. Drawer 976 *FORT WORTH, TEXAS*

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Numismatists and Philatelists

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EXPERTS OF FAR EASTERN COINS.

Our Foreign Manager is a F.R.N.S., Member A. N. A., A. N. S., etc.

If interested in Far Eastern Coins, Medals, Charms and Amulets, write to us.

Relics and Antiques

Old decorated dishes in various colors. Pewter, glass, brass, and copper relics. Flint-lock guns, pistols and war relics. Ancient stone Indian relics. Price list for 2c stamp.

DAVIS BROTHERS, - KENT, OHIO

"We All Have Our Hobbies"

Some Collectors prefer Confederate Bills that were put to use during the War.

I can supply 17 varieties in fair condition; 50c to $100; face value $238 and list for $1.58.

I offer, postpaid, for 50 cents.

If not wanted, return them; there will be no kick on my part.

My Price List for 1911 will interest you; have you a copy?

LUTHER B. TUTHILL

South Creek, N. C.

Just Received From Stockholm

The Beautiful New Coins Of Sweden

FIRST COINAGE SINCE ACCESSION OF GUSTAV V

THE SILVER COINS

2 Kroner. Head of Gustavus V. facing to left. GUSTAF V SVERIGEG KONUNG 1910. Reverse, The pretty Arms of Sweden, crowned. MED FOLKET FOR FOSTERLANDET 2 Kr. Brilliant semi-proof condition. Price.....$1.00

1 Kroner. Same design as the 2 Kr. Brilliant semi-proof. Price..... 50c

25 Ore. Crowned shield, within which are 3 crowns. Rev. 25 ORE., partly within a wreath. Plain edge. Semi-proof. Price.....25c

10 Ore. Obverse same design as the 25 Ore. Reverse, large 10. Above, SVERIGE; and below, the word ORE. Semi-proof. Price.....15c

THE COPPER COINS

The copper coins are all in beautiful mint state, with fine light olive surface. On the obverse is the artistic monogram of conjoined G's and V. crowned; legend and date. On reverse are three crowns; above is 5 and below FEM ORE. The 5 Ore pieces are dated 1911; the 2 Ore 1910 and the 1 Ore 1909.

PRICES:

5 Ore.....10c each, 3 for 25c
2 Ore.....7c each, 4 for 25c
1 Ore.....5c each, 6 for 25c
Or the set of three denominations for 20c.

COMPLETE SET of the silver and copper coins, seven coins, beautiful set.....$2.00
Add 10c for registration.

B. MAX MEHL, P. O. DRAWER 976, FORT WORTH, TEXAS

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American Numismatic Association
COVENTION
CHICAGO
WEEK OF AUGUST 28, 1911

An Illustrated Monthly Journal Published in the Interest of Coins and Coin Collectors

May-June, 1911

Subscription, 50c per year; Single Copies 10c.

EDITED AND PUBLISHED BY

B. Max Mehl

NUMISMATIST

FORT WORTH, TEXAS, U. S. A.

I Invite the Correspondence of Collectors Who Desire to Buy or Sell Anything Along Numismatic Lines

Selections of Coins and Currency Cheerfully Sent on Approval

I am always in the market for the purchase of rare coins or entire collections. Send me a list of what you want to buy or what you have for sale. You will find my prices—both buying and selling—to compare most favorably with those of any other market.

If you are thinking of selling your collection at auction, let me give you my terms before you place your collection. My terms are very reasonable. I guarante prompt and satisfactory returns. Cash advances made on consignments of value.

B. MAX MEHL, *Numismatist*

FORT WORTH, TEXAS

NOTE: My next sale will take place on June 17th. It consists of the Prof. Byron N. Rooks' elegant collection of coins. Nearly 1800 lots. One of the finest collections offered in some time. Catalogues free.

Mehl's Numismatic Monthly

Vol. IV. FORT WORTH, TEXAS, MAY-JUNE, 1911 No. 5-6

Newspaper and Magazine Clippings pertaining to Coins thankfully received. Contributions from those interested in the Science solicited and liberally paid for

The Siege Peso of Uruguay, and Salvador's Counterstamped Coins

Written for MEHL'S NUMISMATIC MONTHLY.

By "PORTUGUESE JOE."

In variety the coinage of Uruguay is quite limited, and it is without special interest to collectors, with the exception of the peso issued by General Manuel Oribe during the long siege of the capital city, from 1842 to 1851. It is classed as a siege piece, but it has the distinction of being issued by a besieging army instead of by the besieged. It is one of the rarest of the South American pesos.

The obverse is similar to the pesos of the Republic issued in the 70's, except that the coat of arms and wreath are larger and the crossed flags and cannon are absent. The reverse is quite plain, having only the inscription and value.

Peso of Manuel Oribe issued during the Siege of Montevideo.

The Republic of Uruguay is officially known as the Oriental Republic of Uruguay, and familiarly called the Banda Oriental, from its geographical position on the eastern side of the large river from which it takes its name. The founding of the town and fort of Colonia del Sacramento by the Portuguese in 1680 was the event that first led to a series of long struggles for the possession of the Banda Oriental. For a century and a quarter the country belonged nominally and alternately to the Spaniards and Portuguese. The

real history of Uruguay can scarcely be said to have commenced until the beginning of the Nineteenth Century, and its history as an independent State dates only from the year 1828.

In a congress convened in July, 1821, it was decreed that the Banda Oriental should be incorporated in the United Kingdom of Portugal, Brazil and Algarbes, under the title of the Cisplatine State. Subsequently, when Brazil declared her independence of the crown of Portugal, it became a question whether the Cisplatine State should belong to Portugal or to Brazil, or return to her allegiance to the Argentine Confederation, then called the United Provinces of La Plata. It was finally decided that it should take the oath of allegiance to the newly created Empire of Brazil. Early in 1824 the State took once again a fresh appellation—Cisplatina—and duly became part of the dominions of Don Pedro, first Emperor of Brazil.

In 1830 the Republica of Uruguay was organized, and for five years the country enjoyed comparative quiet under the presidency of Fructuoso Rivera. He was succeeded by Manuel Oribe, and soon a political conflict broke out between the two. Oribe was a native of Uruguay, being born in Montevidio in 1802. He entered the patriot army when a boy, and rose to high rank. He became Minister of War under President Rivera, and succeeded him as President in 1835. The conflict between the two resulted in civil war, and Rivera succeeded in deposing Oribe just before the end of his term. Oribe then turned to Rosas, Governor of Buenos Ayres, for aid. The result of Rosas' intervention in the affairs of Uruguay and his attempt to close the River Parana to foreign vessels led him into hostilities with England and France, whose joint naval squadrons protected Montevideo from his attacks by sea, while his troops and their Oriental allies under Oribe besieged the city. The siege by the Blancos or Whites, as the Oriental partisans of Oribe were called, continued for nine years, and for that period, from 1842 to 1851, the history of the Republic or Uruguay is the history of the defense of Montevideo. With the aid of Argentine troops Oribe repeatedly defeated his rival, but could not make himself master of Montevideo, and finally surrendered in October, 1851.

Regarding the value of this piece, which is designated as "un peso fuerte," Hubert Howe Bancroft, in his "History of Central America," comments on the value of subsidiary Spanish coins in circulation in Central and South America, and shows how impossible it is, in reading early histories, to determine by the names of the coins the amount of metal they represent. Speaking of the peso fuerte, he says, in part: "In Spanish America a real is one-eighth of a peso, and equal to 2½ reals de vellon. The peso contains one ounce of silver. It was formerly called peso de ocho reales de plata, whence came the term "pieces of eight," a vulgarism at one time in vogue among the merchants and buccaneers in the West Indies. This coin is designated more particularly as peso fuerte, or peso duro, to distinguish it from peso sencillo, equivalent in value to four-fifths of the former. * * * The modern doubloon is an ounce of coined gold, and is worth 16 pesos fuerte. Reduced to United States currency the peso fuerte, as slightly alloyed bullion, is in weight nearly enough equivalent to one dollar. * * * The modern ounce or doubloon is valued at about $16. As to the relative purchasing power of the precious metals at different times during the past four centuries economists differ. The returns brought by the first discoverers began the depreciation which was rapidly accelerated by the successive conquests, notably of Mexico and Peru. Anyone may estimate; no one can determine with exactness."

The conditions brought about by the numerous revolutions and insurrections that have disturbed Central America for many years, with the confederations and near-confederations which the several States have formed or attempted to form at different times since their independence of Spain was established, have affected their coinage to some extent, but not to a degree that we might reasonably expect. Besides the many private issues there are a number of coins which may very properly be classed as necessity issues. In a former paper I referred to the pieces issued for circulation in Nicaragua about 1850, when three of the States attempted to form an alliance.

Another series of necessity coins are those counterstamped by General Gerardo Barrios while President of Salvador, at a time while he was at war with Carrera, President of Guatemala. The counterstamp consists of the letter "R" within a border of pellets, signifying, according to one authority, "Revision." (See illustration).

1 and 4 Reals of Guatemala, Counterstamped by General Barrios for Salvador.

Gerardo Barrios was for many years prominent in the affairs of Central America. He was born about 1810. In 1857 he headed the Salvador reinforcements to aid Nicaragua against Walker's filibusters. In 1858, while a Senator, he planned a coup d'etat to make Vice President Guzman, his father-in-law, President, and the legislative assembly sanctioned the coup. In 1860 Barrios was elected President, and in 1862 he effected an alliance, both offensive and defensive, with Honduras, which displeased President Carrera of Guatemala. Enmity had existed for some time between these two Presidents, and the Guatemala government had been contemplating war against Salvador. Carrera invaded that State, but issued a proclamation that the war was to be against Barrios, and not against the people. His first attempt was not successful. The war soon involved other Central American States, Honduras siding with Salvador, and the Nicaraguans aiding Guatemala. Intrigues and deception were brought into play to induce several of the Salvador commanders to revolt against Barrios, and were successful to an extent, and Carrera soon became master of the situation. Barrios continued to hold out four months in San Salvador, though closely besieged and suf-

fering from want of food and ammunition. When further defense was impossible he escaped from the city, October 26, 1863, and subsequently out of the country, and for a time resided in New York City. Later on he was allowed to reside in Costa Rica, against the protests of the other Central American States. In 1865 he attempted to bring about a revolution in Salvador in order that he might again become President, but was captured in Nicaragua. The Salvador government demanded his extradition in order that he might be tried, and the Nicaraguan government surrendered him under the express stipulation that his life should be spared whatever might be the result of the trial. The government of Salvador disregarded the obligation, and he was executed August 29, 1865.

So far as I can learn, it was only upon the coins of Carrera that Barrios placed the counterstamp. It is found on the pesos, 4, 2, 1 and half reals of Guatemala of the years 1859-1862. In a list of the coins of Guatemala the Coin Collectors' Journal, April, 1888, illustrates and describes one of these counterstamped pieces, but makes no mention of it being intended for use in Salvador. In the Fonrobert catalogue, however, it is attributed to Salvador, and it is usually so attributed in sale catalogues in which they are offered.

Counterstamped coins are usually the product of necessity, and as a rule their appearance is more or less marred, particularly the other side of the coin, if the stamping is bold or deeply impressed. When counterstamped by reason of necessity it naturally follows that facilities for coining are lacking, and the work is often imperfectly, crudely, and perhaps hurriedly done. All the coins with the stamp of Barrios that I have seen are, however, stamped in such a careful, methodical manner, always on the same position on the coin, and the design is so neat, that their appearance is not greatly marred, but, on the contrary, serves rather as an ornament to the ignorant and brutal features of the swineherd President of Guatemala on the coins.

TO READ COIN INSCRIPTIONS

Numismatist Shows Test That Seldom Fails to Reveal Dates on Worn Coins.

Lying on the table in front of a numismatist was an old copper coin. It had experienced hard usage.

"Can you read the date and the inscription?" inquired the collector.

The visitor inspected the specimen, but, although he had the aid of a magnifying glass, he confessed that the words and figures were illegible.

"Let me assist you," the collector remarked. Going to the kitchen range he thrust an ordinary coal shovel into the fire and permitted it to remain there until red hot. Withdrawing it, he dropped the coin on the utensil, and it speedily became as red hot as the shovel itself. Immediately the date, 1794, shone brightly in glowing figures on the obverse side of the coin, and similar treatment revealed the words United States of America—one cent—on the reverse. This test, according to the numismatist, seldom fails with any coin, even when the inscriptions have been worn so perfectly smooth that they are invisible to the naked eye.—N. Y. Tribune.

NEW BILL WILL REDUCE EMPLOYES OF TWO MINTS.

WASHINGTON, May 19.—Sweeping reductions in the force of the government mints at Denver and San Francisco are predicted by Mint Director Roberts as a result of a bill recently passed permitting the treasury to issue gold certificates against gold coin and rough bullion.

The A. N. A. Convention for 1911

Although we have not yet received any official programme or contemplated plans of the committee having in charge the entertainment of the A. N. A. Convention to be held in Chicago the week of August 28th, a fair idea as to what may be expected in the way of entertainment and other features, may be had from the reports of the meetings of the Chicago Numismatic Society, which are published in full in this issue of the Monthly; and from which it is evident that a very entertaining and most enjoyable time is in store for those who will attend this year's Convention of the American Numismatic Association.

Friend Green informs us that the Committee on Exhibitions have secured as a meeting place the Art Institute, and the privilege of exhibiting coins, etc., in the cases of the Institute in their public rooms.

The famous La Salle hotel has been selected as headquarters.

The real pleasures to be had at a Convention can only be appreciated by those who have before been wise to "take in" an A. N. A. Convention. The Numismatic Science has yet a very small following; the numismatists in any community are hardly of sufficient numbers to enjoy satisfactory exchange of views on the subject.

LA SALLE HOTEL, CHICAGO.
Headquarters of American Numismatic Association Convention, Week of August 28, 1911.

Chicago is the home of some of the most prominent numismatists in the country—we dare say—in the world. Aside from the real numismatic pleasures that may be expected at the convention—there is always a social side to it—so different and enjoyable as is only possible when men get together whose fondest hobby is unappreciated by their friends at home, and can only be fully enjoyed when in company with men of kindred tastes.

The Convention this year is set for a very convenient time of the season. Members of the A. N. A. who are planning their vacation now should arrange to "take in" the Convention in Chicago, the week of August 28th.

Petition to Have Stamps and Coins on Free List

Prepared and Forwarded by Mr. William Poillon of the American Numismatic Society of New York.

Honorable Oscar W. Underwood, M. C., April 20th, 1911.
Chairman Committee on Ways and Means,
House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.

My Dear Mr. Chairman:

At the suggestion of a dear friend, a member of the House of Representatives, I take the liberty of drawing to your attention and through you the attention of your committee to the anomalous discrimination of the present tariff against the collectors of medals.

Foreign coins and foreign postage stamps are admitted free of duty, while there is a duty of 45 per cent ad valorem upon foreign medals. Medals are certainly works of art, their importation interferes with no infant industry of the United States which needs protection, and the gross amount of duty secured by the Government is certainly infinistesimal. The duty isposed upon medals can, therefore, not be treated as a revenue measure. It is simply a survival of the ancient doctrine that everything which is imported must be taxed to the highest extent, regardless of the necessity, utility or propriety of the tax. There are many thousands of collections of medals throughout the United States—most of them of limited means—who are deprived of much pleasure through the imposition of this tax. The study of medals is in itself an education, and the levy of this prohibitive duty is, therefore, practically a tax upon education.

Another point of view to be considered is that many collections of medals are left to public and other educational institutions, and that such collections would be greatly enriched if there were perfect freedom of importation. Coins are sent from Europe to American collectors on approval. They select what thy please, and return the rest. The same is done in the case of postage stamps. By reason of the fact that medals cannot enter this country except upon the payment of duty, collectors of medals are deprived of this privilege. They must send definite orders and they must keep what they get, even though mis-described, as if they return the pieces, they would have to lose the forty-five per cent duty.

These are but a few of the reasons which impel me to ask you, now that you are about to revise the free list, to place medals on a parity with coins and postage stamps. Such action would meet with the unbounded approval of the many thousand collectors throughout this country, and I am sure would appeal to your sense of right and justice.

I have the honor to remain,

Very truly yours, WILLIAM POILLON

TARIFF OF 1909.

FREE LIST:

Par. 542 Coins of gold, silver, copper or other metal.

Par. 682 Stamps, foreign postage or revenue stamps, cancelled or uncancelled, and foreign Government stamped postcards bearing no other printing than the official imprint thereon.

Par. 624 Medals of gold, silver, or copper, and other metallic articles, **actually bestowed as trophies or prizes, and received and accepted as honorary distinctions.**

All others are held dutiable as articles of metal not specially provided for under Par. 199.

Denford Numismatic Society

"Things seem to be getting lively just now in Mexico," said Evans, "and I have been reading the war news pretty closely of late. I found, though, that I knew very little of the geography of the country, and to remedy that I studied the map of Mexico quite a bit, and now I could pass an examination without any trouble. The war news from the different storm centers is far more interesting when one knows just where they are situated.

"Then I got my tray of Mexican coins and they were of greater interest than ever. The quarter real of Zacatecas, wits its shy cherub floating above the city seemed rather out of place in this war spent country. But the trouble will soon be over now and peace reign once more."

"It's quite time," said Jennings. "If they don't take care, some people may get hurt. It's nearly as dangerous as playing ball—and Uncle Sam should put a stop to it. Why cannot the Mexicans do as we do—just have an election, and let the majority rule?"

"How did you come out in the sales last month?" asked Howard. "I got some very good coins at reasonable prices. There has been quite a lot said recently about the excessive cost of coins, but if a man pays an excessive price, it is his own fault. If he sends only reasonable bids he will obtain his coins at reasonable prices."

"I quite agree with you there," said Hill. "I know I get mine at reasonable prices—and I am prepared to go without a coin if I cannot buy it right. If you do not get it in one sale, try again, and you may get it in the next. I know this: as a rule one can buy any coin outside of the United States series, far cheaper in this country than if you ordered it from Europe."

"I should say so," said Blake. "I have bought coins in this country for a mere fraction of what they ask for them abroad—and really good coins, too. For my part, I cannot see how any man can reasonably expect the value of his collection to increase from year to year, the same as if he had it invested in real estate. Of course, some coins will increase in value, while others will depreciate. Take, for instance, the Hard Times Tokens, and the Store Cards of the same period. Ten years ago they sold for five times the price they can be bought for today. I consider the early Store Cards to be a most interesting series—one that is greatly neglected today.

"Then look at the cents of Connecticut, New Jersey, Massachusetts and Vermont, the cost of these cannot be said to be excessive, and they are cheap enough for anyone. Ancient coins sell for low prices also—a number of them are placed in one lot and sell for a few cents each, in a European sale they would each be catalogued separately, and some of them illustrated in the plates. Take it all around, coins are cheap today, and the cost need not deter any young collector from following up the hobby."

"I think," said Jennings, "that what we really want in Numismatics is more intelligent discrimination in what to collect. The young collector is apt at the start to buy anything in the shape of a coin—simply because it is a coin. It is almost impossible to make a hard and fast rule, and to stick to it; but it is a wise thing to determine to collect only coins that have an historical or local interest. Indiscriminate collecting means a loss of money if we wish to sell again when we realize our mistake."

"That is very true," said Herman, "but what we as a numismatic society really need to make us a power in the land is more distinguished patronage, and I move that the honorary membership of our society be conferred upon His Serene Highness Prince Fuzzywuz of Foozlezun—all of you will at once

recognize his claims to this honor, and in honoring His Serene Highness, we honor our society and ourselves."

"I oppose that motion," said Howard. "I never heard of Fuzzy before and the Denford Numismatic Society can get along without such patronage. I know a man that has a cigar store over on State street; he has the finest lot of California gold I ever saw. I was speaking to him the other night about joining us, and he said he should be very pleased to do so. Such a man is worth a dozen Fuzzies."

"Bring your man along," said Jennings, "we shall be pleased to have him, and no doubt one of the other numismatic clubs in the country will adopt Fuzzy—but we will get along without him."

The Value of Ancient Money

Ancient history, both sacred and profane, frequently mentions divisions of money which are unknown to us now, whose value we only vaguely imagine. The servant who, in the parable, received one talent, had a snug little sum to begin operations with, while the man to whom ten were given, and returned ten others which he had gained to his Master, handed over a fortune. The wagers made at the Roman games and races are seen to have been fabulous in some instances.

During the breathless chariot-race in "Ben-Hur" the cry is raised, "A talent —or five talents, or ten!" a wager which hardly would find a parallel even in this extravagant age.

The extremes of ancient moneys were much wider apart than anything we know nowadays, and the widow's mite was indeed a small sum. The comparison in the table following brings this out in a very clear fashion:

Denominations.	Grains.	Gold Value
Gold Shekel	132	$5.69
Gold Maneh	13,200	569.00
Gold Talent	1,320,000	56,900.00
Silver Gerah	11	.02¼
Silver Beka	110	.26½
Silver Shekel	220	.53
Silver Maneh	13,200	32.00
Silver Talent	660,000	1,660.00
Copper Shekel	528	.03.14
Persian Daric or Drachm (gold)	128	5.52
Maccabæan Shekel (silver)	220	.53
"Piece of Money" (stater, silver)	220	.53
Penny (Denarius, silver)	59	.14
Farthing (Quadrans, copper)	42	.00¼
Farthing (Assarium, copper)	84	.00½
Mite (copper)	21	.00⅛

New British Coins Called too German

The new coinage of Great Britain, issued in honor of the coronation of King George V., has aroused another wave of anti-German sentiment among some of his subjects, and the blame is being placed largely on the shoulders of Bertram Mackennal, the designer.

The objection in this case is that the head of King George bears a much closer resemblance to Prince Henry of Prussia than to the king or ruler of Great Britain and Ireland, emperor of India, etc.

Because of this discovery there is considerable amazement expressed in London that neither the king nor any of his cabinet or close friends perceived the striking resemblance to the brother of Kaiser Wilhelm. If this resemblance had been noted before the coins were issued the dies could easily have been destroyed and new ones engraved, but this is now an impossibility.

The coins struck in honor of King Edward were considered too French, but the clamor that arose on that occasion is nothing as compared to the fancied German countenance on his son's coinage.

Because of the king's great interest in philately it is hoped by many that the new stamps will be an artistic improvement on the designs now in use. The king, it will be remembered, possesses one of the finest collections of postage stamps in existence. If the new stamps are to be judged by the late coinage this hope is vain, according to those desiring a change.

Illustrations of three of the new coins already struck—the sovereign, shilling and halfpenny show few changes from the original dies. Except for the substitution of the portrait of the new king for that of his father, which, in accordance with the custom that has prevailed since the days of Charles II., is turned the opposite way to that of the preceding monarch, no change has been made in the design.

The reverse of the sovereign still bears the designs of St. George and the dragon, which was engraved by Pistrucci in 1821, with slight modifications, such as the addition of a horsehair crest on the helmet, which was introduced late in Victoria's reign.

On the halfpenny the Britannia shown on the reverse is that designed for Victoria's second bronze coinage, which omits the lighthouse and ship. The reverse of the shilling shows the same royal crest, a lion statant on the crown, as did the shilling of Edward. This device is of ancient origin, the first example being the gold half and quarter florin of Edward III. in 1343, which was revived on the lion shilling of George IV., but fell into disuse until its appearance on the coinage of Edward VII.

It is asserted that new designs will be produced on two denominations of the new silver coinage.

CANNON INTO COIN.

Ancient French Guns Melted Down to Modern Usefulness.

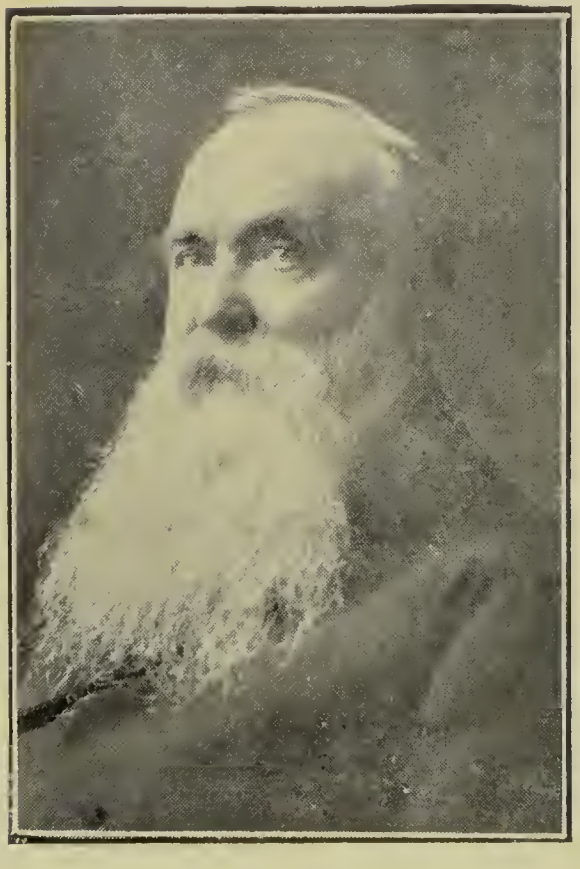
PARIS.—Old cannon to the extent of 300 tons are to be turned into new pence and half-pence as quickly as possible. In Paris, for some unexplained reason, the French copper coinage has a way of disappearing, and at the present moment the mint finds it necessary to turn out $600,000 worth of new pence and halfpence.

For this purpose the war office has made a present to the mint of the old cannon which are in the forts in and around Paris, and which are of no particular value.

This is the first time since the revolution that French cannon have been melted down to be made into money.

Important Auction Sale of Rare Coins

On June 17th, B. Max Mehl will sell at auction the elegant collection of rare coins formed by Prof. Byron N. Rooks, of Lexington, Mo. This sale is the sixteenth and the most important one conducted by the "Texas Dealer,"—and from the quantity and quality of the coins offered, and the wide range of the series represented, it is one of the most important auction sales of recent years.



PROF. BYRON N. ROOKS

Prof. Rooks, while relinquishing active pursuit of his numismatic hobby, does not relinquish interest in the numismatic science, to which he has been devoted and has made an intelligent study of for upward of thirty years. Possessing the taste of the connoisseur, Prof. Rooks collected only the coins in the finest obtainable state of preservation, with the result that his collection represents an array of the coinage of the United States in the most beautiful state of preservation.

EXTENT OF THE SALE.

The sale consists of about eighteen hundred lots, representing every series of the United States coinage from the half-cent to the double eagle of the Philadelphia mint and all the branch mints.

The minor series are about complete excepting the half cents.

HALF DIMES—Eighty-eight specimens, 1794 to 1873, all mints, including the rare 1794, '95, '97 and 1800 Libekty and 1860 with stars.

DIMES—One hundred and seventy-four specimens, 1796 to 1910, all the early dates including the 1804.

TWENTY CENTS—Complete, all mints excepting only 1876 CC.

QUARTERS—One hundred and fifty-seven specimens, 1796 to 1910, including the rare 1795, 1804, 1815 and 1831 proof, 1853 no rays and arrows, and all the early dates, 1815 to 1830, in beautiful state of preservation; majority proofs or uncirculated.

HALF DOLLARS—Over two hundred specimens, 1794 to 1910. All mints, including many very rare; perfect condition the feature.

SILVER DOLLARS—More than one hundred and sixty different specimens, 1794-1904. All mints. Some of the greatest rarities of all mints, 1794, 1836, 1852, etc.

Commemorative Coins, Patterns. Complete sets of cents,—large and small, —all mints, 1793, 1799, 1804, 1856 Eagle.

GOLD COINS.

GOLD DOLLARS—Magnificent collection, 1849-1889. All dates excepting 1863, including 1864, 1865, 1875. Nearly all beautiful proofs. Fine set of mint marks, including the rarest known gold dollar, 1861 "D."

QUARTER EAGLES—More than one hundred different, including the 1797, 1802, 1806, 1808, 1824, 1825, 1830 to 1833. Other rarities of all mints.

THREE DOLLARS, GOLD—Nearly complete collection, including uncirculated 1865 and brilliant proof of 1876, only 45 specimens of which were struck—and other rare dates.

FOUR DOLLARS—1879, a magnificent proof—the most beautiful specimen that the cataloguer has ever seen.

HALF EAGLE—1795 to 1818. Some of the very scarce dates,—also later dates in brilliant proofs.

EAGLES—Nearly complete set of the early eagles, 1795 to 1804, all dates except 1798, but including the excessively rare 1797 small eagle and 1797 dith reverse of 1798. Semi-proofs of 1795, 1804 and the very rare 1841 "O." mint and 1907 St. Gaudens with periods.

St. Gaudens Double Eagle, rare variety of 1907.

FRACTIONAL CURRENCY—A fine collection representing all the issues and including some of the great rarities. The twenty-five-cent Fessenden, with solid gold disk, red backs, autographs, perforated, etc., also a perfect shield.

FOREIGN COINS.

A fine collection of silver dollar-size and smaller. Interesting copper coins; also ancient Greek and Roman coins. There are also some rare American Colonial coins, cards, medals, encased stamps and numismatic books. About eighteen hundred lots in all, making a really important and interesting sale.

Catalogues have already been mailed. Those who have not yet received a copy, if they will so notify promptly the cataloguer, he will be only too glad to see that a catalogue reaches them in time to send in bids for the sale, which is to be held on June 17th, 1911.

Neatly printed lists of the same size of the catalogue pages, showing amounts realized for each lot in the sale will be issued at only fifty cents. Those wishing to keep posted on the prevailing prices of coins will find this a very cheap and satisfactory method.

Any special information regarding any lots of the sale will be promptly and cheerfully given by the cataloguer.

B. MAX MEHL, Fort Worth, Texas.

SPECIAL NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS.

Although we announced in our last issue that during the summer months we shall issue double numbers in place of an issue every month, we have received numerous requests and complaints of the non-arrival of the May issue. This issue is a combination of the May and June numbers. The next issue will appear for July and August.

The Pound of Last Resort

The sacred brass pound has been on its job again.

What is the sacred brass pound?

Well, it looks like a duck egg in plain brass, with the point shaved off to serve as a stable base for it to rest on, and with a rather neatly ornamented flat top, like those you see sticking up from the pound and half pound weights near the drug store scales, rising from the upturned butt.

But this sacred brass pound—the sacred brass pound—of the United States mint at Philadelphia you will never lay eyes on, unless you have the honorable good fortune, as the Japs would very properly put it, to become a member of the government's assay commission. And even then, if you should be imbued with anything like a due sense of your responsibilities, you wouldn't dare lay hands on it without good and sufficient cause; and causes of that brand are pretty hard to concoct, even in the mind of a commissioner.

You see, it is the brass pound which is the last resort in determining the correct weight of all the money minted in the United States, and it is called sacred because of the modern worship of the golden calf.

That is putting it rather more brutally than its functions or its official importance may deserve; yet, when we come to sum up the whole range of the vast subject to which this small brass pound is the only and the treasured key, it is the simple truth to note that it is cherished, and guarded, and respected precisely in proportion to the value which we Americans, as a nation, place upon the hard cash for which we work so hard and of which most of us, worse luck, feel we get so little.

Why, if anything should happen to that little brass pound, not a single one of us—or a married one either, for that matter—would know whether the $5 gold pieces he passes out in tips were really worth $5, and half the bank directors in the country, together with all the treasury officials, might be accused of the old crime of coin sweating.

The government of the United States was fairly prompt in deciding that it had to work from a fixed standard for its coinage, and yet it was nearly half a century or so late in reaching the conclusion that any absolute standard was necessary.

Curiously enough, the date when that conclusion was reached marked the period of the national transition from its primitive, Arcadian simplicities to its first awakenings to the struggle for riches.

Standard Pound From England.

A dozen years or so after the war of 1812 had ended and peace showed itself as indefinitely assured—in 1827—instructions were given to American minister in London to procure there a pound weight of brass, which should be of the exact standard of twelve ounces, troy—exact to the smallest fraction of a grain. In 1823 the practice had been instituted of having a government commission examine and weigh sample coins made during the year at the mint, so that all government currency could, in itself, support the guaranty of the government that it contained precisely so much gold, or silver, as was specified by law. The discussions that led up to the establishment of the commission harked back to within only a few years of the re-establishment of peace, and the dates afford ample evidence of the fact that the whole country turned, with instant eagerness, at once to the setting of its financial house in order, so that its firm foundation might enable it to expand all its trades and commerce with the absolutely correct cash which is the only sure foundation of credit.

In compliance with the behest there came from London the brass pound

which has ever since been the ultimate standard for the comparison of all our coinage, the little shaved and brass handled duck egg that was destined ultimately to end the once common crime of "sweating" coins, by which constant shaking in a bag brought off enough gold dust to afford a profit to the thief. So long as there was any possible doubt, to the fraction of a grain, as to the full weight of a gold piece when it was minted, just so long it would be impossible to prove that any appreciable quantity had been taken from it.

So important was every grain of metal in the fundamental brass pound destined to be, and so keenly was that importance appreciated, that its very shape was made to entail the minimum amount of friction when handled, and even while standing in its mahogany box. The duck egg shape allows only the outer rim to touch the chamois lining of the case, and it constitutes what seems to be the original discovery and application of the principle of ball bearing machinery, in which the same use is made of the sphere, but with a number of spheres instead of one.

This supersensitive pound weight was never to be touched by human hands. A carefully designed lifter, or so called hook, was provided; and that, too, was covered with chamois, lest it scratch the surface.

Substitute for Everyday Use.

But, as time passed on, it was realized that even the meager utilization of the original pound might entail a certain amount of attrition, the use of it for the standardization of the weights in daily service at the mint would be sure to wear off a grain or so in the course of a century. So a second brass pound was made at the Philadelphia mint, corresponding to the sacred one in every dimension and every hair fineness of weight. Then that second pound, likewise kept in a chamois lined mahogany case and handled with a chamois covered hook, was used for the perfecting of all the regular mint weights, for the standardizing of all the mint scales, and was itself compared once a year with the original brass pound, to make sure it hadn't fallen off so anybody could notice it.

As the assay commission does its work now, the original brass pound figures about as much in visible ceremonies as the grand lama of Tibet used to before the British used their swords on that coveted oyster.

Ellis Pugh, the adjuster of scales and weights at the Philadelphia mint, where the commission meets on the second Wednesday of February, solemnly adjusts the mint's great scale, known as the Saxton balance, while L. A. Fischer, of the bureau of standards in the treasury department at Washington, as solemnly deposits the sacred old pound against the common, everyday one which Mr. Pugh made years ago. The fact is noted that they balance, and the ordinary standard pound is good for another year's duty, in regulating all the weights which regulate all the coins made in all the mints of the United States.

Work of the Assay Commission.

The assay commission is appointed by the President himself, for one year only. The comptroller of the currency, the assayer of the New York assay office and the judge of the United States district court at Philadelphia are always members, and there are eighteen others of greater or less expert knowledge, including a sprinkling of senators and representatives. They come to the Philadelphia mint and usually put in two rather strenuous days, for the examination of the year's coinage is by no means any mere formality. You can't afford to be merely formal when it comes to examining the evidence that nobody has been robbing the government on the year's output of 8,411,457 gold pieces, worth $88,776,907.50; plus 35,982,350 pieces of silver, worth $8,087,852.50; plus 129,276,789 five and one cent pieces, worth $1,756,388.93, in all $98,621,148.93—with Philippine pesos and minor coins, and San Salvador pesos to boot, worth 11,298,981 pesos.

Not when, on a double eagle, a range is allowed by law of only one-half grain in weight and .001 of a degree in fineness; with the same precision in fineness applying to all other gold coins, and the one-half grain of weight range allowable on the $10 gold piece, and only one-fourth grain on the $5 and $2.50 pieces. On the minor silver coins, .003 of a degree in fineness is allowed and 1½ grains of weight; but even those relatively wide divagations from the just rendering to Caesar of what belongs to him are watched with the most scrupulous and suspicious exactitude.

How Calculations Are Made.

The way the calculations are made is this: At all the mints now operating, as well as the Philadelphia mint, whenever the coiner makes a delivery of coins to the superintendent, one gold piece for every 1,000, and one silver piece for every 2,000, are taken at random from the lot, and are carefully sealed up in envelopes, giving date of delivery, number and denomination of pieces inclosed and amount of the delivery from which they are taken. The envelopes are

deposited in a pyx—practically a safe—under the joint care of the superintendent and the assayer, neither of whom can have access to it without the other. Every quarter the contents of the pyx are shipped to the Philadelphia mint, where, with the coins taken at random there, they are sequestered in a similar pyx, and reports are duly forwarded to the director of the mint at Washington.

In February of every year comes the assay commission, empowered by law to do practically anything it deems needful to determine whether every solitary one of those sample coins is up to standards of weight and fineness.

Usually the commission divides itself into committees of counting, weighing and assaying, a practical expert weigher, like Mr. Fisher, of the bureau of standards, attending to the actual tests with the hair balance scales when it comes to any $20 gold piece his fellow members think it worth while testing, and a man like George R. Comings, the assayer of the New York assay office, overseeing the acid tests of fineness.

A photograph of the meeting room at the mint, when the commission is in session, discloses a score of very prosperous gentlemen, many of whom have long ago quit handling hard cash for the convenience of checks, working like bank clerks as they prove up the honesty and reliability of the government mint employes in Philadelphia, where the minor coins are mostly turned out, and in Denver and San Francisco, where the gold pieces are produced. And they show that, if they're not all from Missouri, they ought to be.

Every single coin, pyxed for every day, or week, at every mint, is itemized in the report. And samples tested are reported on, showing deviations from standard weights, in the gold coins, as low as one one-hundredth of a grain and none higher than twenty-two one-hundredths. At the San Francisco and Denver mints repeated instances show where the coins are delivered "standard," that is, so perfectly true to the weight required by law that human skill fails to find even the fraction of a grain wrong in them.

And the sacred old pound? Well, it goes right along, protected by its chamois setting, its chamois hook and its ballbearings, supreme above all suspicion. But the secondary brass pound the one used to standardize all the other weights that regulate our coinage—is correct within one part in 300,000; and three separate pounds, built up of the common working weights of the Philadelphia mint, were found to be correct within one part in 50,000.

Phila. North Amer.

PRICES REALIZED AT THE AUCTION SALE OF COINS,

The Collection of Messrs. Mateer and Birkeland, Catalogued and Sold by B. Max Mehl on April 22.

1793 Half Cent; very fair	$ 3.00
1793 Cent. Chain, Ameri. V. fair to V. G.	15.25
1795 Plain edge	3.40
1799 Perfect date	11.00
1856 Flying Eagle Cent, proof	10.25
1836 Dollar, proof	19.50
1858 Dollar. Plugged	25.00
1796 Half Dollar	52.00
1838 Pattern Half Dollar	26.25
1879 $4.00 Gold Piece	82.00
1853 Quarter, without rays or arrows	15.50
1796 Dime	3.75
1798 Dime	4.25
1803 Dime; good	5.50
1824 Half Eagle	165.00
1818 Half Eagle	19.50

There were over 750 lots in all.

Mehl's next sale, to take place June 17th, will contain about eighteen hundred lots, including a most elegant collection of United States and foreign coins. Catalogues are free. They may be had by addressing B. Max Mehl, Fort Worth, Texas.

COMMUNICATIONS

"OLDEST BANK NOTES OF THE WORLD."

The Editor, Mehl's Numismatic Monthly. Yokohama, March 27th, 1911.

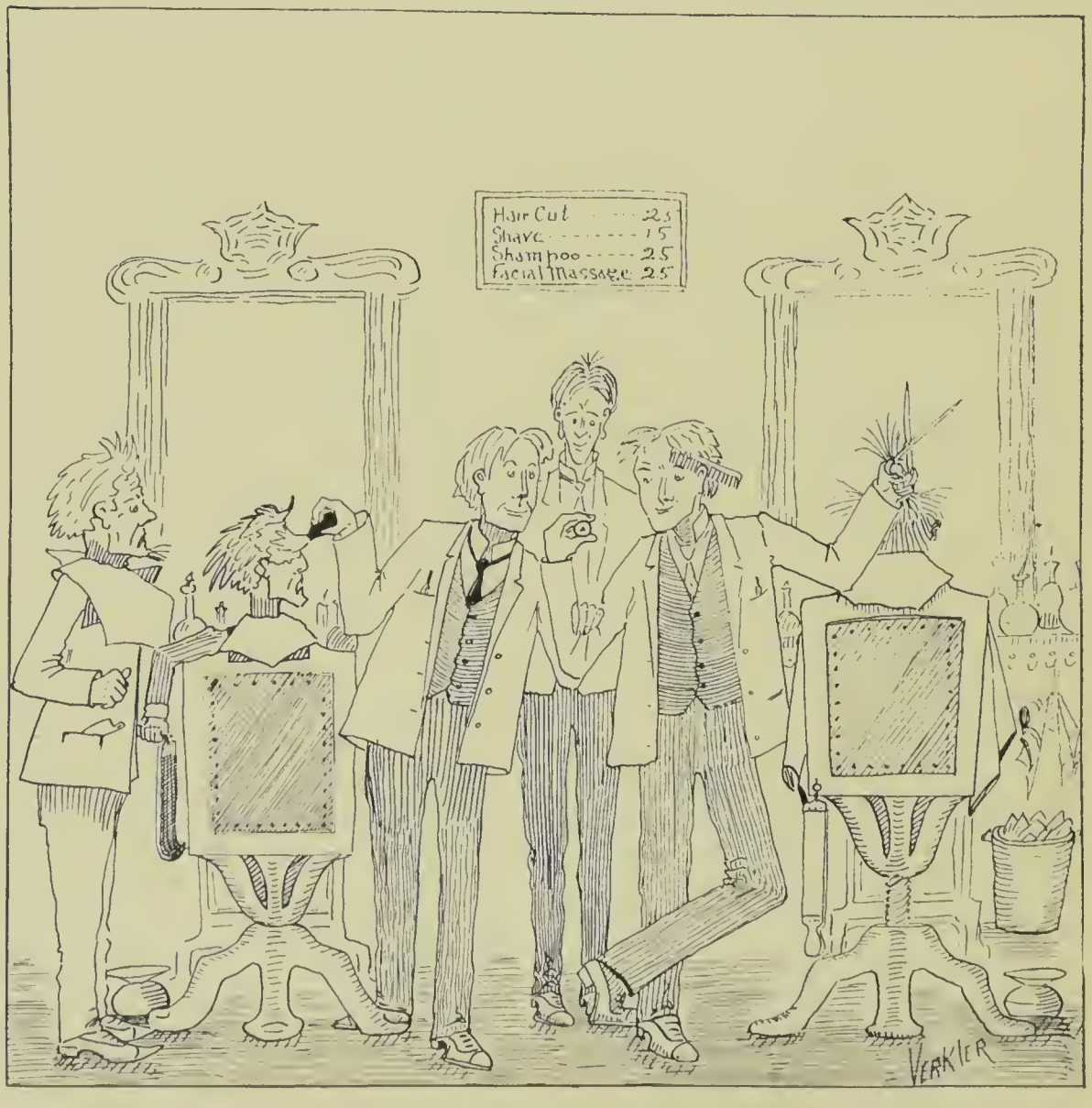
Dear Sir:

In the March issue of your up-to-date Monthly, I read, with some interest, the paragraph relating to the "Oldest Bank Note in the World, Now in the British Museum, Printed in China in the Year 1368."

I have no doubt that this refers to one of the Ming Notes, issued by the Emperor T'ai T'su, whose reign title was Hung Wu (1368-1398), but I regret that I am unable to agree as to its being "the oldest bank note in the world."

The above note is comparatively modern when one considers that the first Government Notes of which the issue is recorded, were of the Tang Dynasty. The Chinese Emperor Hien Tsung (806-81), on account of the scarcity of cash, issued an edict prohibiting the manufacture of all copper utensils, and, to provide for the monetary stringency, opened offices at the capital and other towns at which merchants could deposit their coin, receiving in exchange these notes. This is the first authentic record in the world of a Government issue of paper money.

Yours obediently, H. A. RAMSDEN, F. R. N. S.,
District Secretary A. N. A.



THE NUMISMATIC BARBER.
Drawn by E. C. Verkler for Mehl's Numismatic Monthly.

The Boston Numismatic Society

A meeting of the above named society was held in their room in the Old State House on May 12, 1911, Dr. Storer in the chair. The routine business was soon transacted and a number of coins and medals were shown Mr. Shumway, the Rhode Island colonial medal, and a number of Hard Times Tokens. Mr. Crosby, an impression in wax, presumably from a die, showing an eagle with a shield alongside and the inscription, TWO DOLLARS RHODE ISLAND. No one present could offer any explanation about this. Mr. Joy showed two fine specimens of private gold, namely: the Miner's Bank ten dollars and the Pike's Peak eagle of 1860. Mr. Wood exhibited a New England shilling and several of the more recent foreign issues. Mr. Tilden showed twenty-three of the rarer of the Hard Times Tokens and several pattern cents. Dr. Storer showed a number of naval medals. Mr. Wood then read a paper from Mr. H. A. Ramsden, of Yokohama, Japan, on a find of twenty hitherto unknown ancient Chinese coins, called Carapace or tortoise back money. The twenty pieces from this find were also shown in conjunction with this paper. The pieces have been mentioned by only two or three of the older Chinese writers, but it is doubtful if any of these authors ever saw specimens, and it is highly probable that these pieces are the only specimens known today.

The following members were present: Dr. Storer, Messrs. Joy, Wood, Bird, Shumway, Tilden, Crosby and Wheeler. Mr. Boyle was present as a guest.

HOWLAND WOOD, Secretary.

DERIVATION OF DOLLAR MARK.

Has long Been Subject of Discussion, and Many Are the Theories Advanced.

The origin of the sign $, as representinging the unit of our money system, has long been the subject of discussion and not a little doubt. It has been variously accounted for, the derivations generally advanced being:

1. A combination of the letters U. S. After the adoption of the federal constitution these initials were prefixed to the federal currency, and, according to many who have given study to the subject, the two letters were simply run together so as to make the magic $, the loop of the U disappearing in the operation.

2. An adaptation or modification of 8/8, once used to denote a piece of eight reals, or, as a dollar was then called, a piece of eight.

3. A form of H. S., which was used to mark the Roman unit of money.

4. A contraction of P. and S., used in Spanish accounts to indicate peso, (dollar).

5. A device formerly seen on the reverse of a Mexican Pillar dollar, (a Spanish coin), representing the Pillars of Hercules, connected by a scroll displaying the words Plus Ultra.

6. A contraction of the Spanish "fuertes," (hard), to distinguish the silver or hard, dollar from paper money.

In all of these cases it must be admitted that there is no little speculation, and up to this time there is no prospect that the question will ever be definitely settled. The student of the subject can take his choice, and doubtless will be able to find some kind of authority for any one of these diverse explanations.

The Chicago Numismatic Society

The eighty-seventh monthly meeting of the above named society was held in their rooms, 1622 Masonic Temple, Friday evening, April 7th, President Harry F. Williams presiding. The following twenty-four members were present: Messrs. Carey, V. M. Brand, Simpson, Excell, Leon, Tuckerman, Edward Michael, Vercouter, Holmes, Baker, Williams, Loer, Wilson, Davis, Ripstra, Mayer, Regitz, Kelly, Green, Verkler, Lamson, Nelson, Scully and Dr. Merrill. Mr. Fred R. Simpson was present as a visitor.

On motion six active and nine corresponding members were dropped for non-payment of dues. Messrs. A. F. Van Order and Joe Wasserman were elected to membership. The membership medals for 1910 were distributed.

A. N. A. convention matters were discussed and the President appointed the following committee on Hotels, Program and Entertainments: Messrs. Loer, Leon, Carey, Holmes and Dr. Merrill. And the following as a Convention Executive Committee: Messrs. Simpson, Edward Michael, Lamson, Verkler and Scully. A motion was carried expressing the wish of the society that Mr. Green conduct an auction sale during the convention. The Committee on Convention Exhibits reported that the Director of the Art Institute had given permission for the holding of the convention sessions in their club room, and that exhibits might be made in the Art Institute, and committee was authorized to accept these invitations.

Under Exhibits, Mr. Vercouter showed a Lincoln medal, Mr. Leon some Mormon bills and store cards, and Mr. Williams six pieces of early Brazilian gold.

Magazines received since last report were: The Numismatist, Mehl's Monthly, Numismatische Correspondenz and Spink's Circular, all for March. Auction catalogs from Henry Chapman, (2), Green, Low, Mehl, Merwin-Clayton Co., Raymond and Schulman; catalog with fixed prices from Raymond; catalogue of books from Gamber, and a priced catalog from Adams. The report of the Chicago Historical Society for 1910 and California Assay Office of 1850 by Adams were added to the library.

Adjourned to meet May 5th, 1911. BEN G. GREEN, Secretary.

The eighty-eighth meeting of the above named Society was held in their rooms, 1622 Masonic Temple, Friday evening, May 5th, Vice President F. Elmo Simpson presiding. The following seventeen members were present: Messrs. Carey, V. M. Brand, Brenner, Simpson, Leon, Vercouter, Holmes, Baker, Loer, Wilson, Davis, Puttkamer, Green, Verkler, Nelson, Scully and Dr. Merrill. Mr. Albert L. Von den Berghen was present as a visitor.

A notification was received from the Chicago Philatelic Society of their removal from the rooms May 1st. The resignation of Messrs. W. H. Mann and

A. F. Van Order were received and accepted. Mr. A. L. Van den Berghen was elected to membership.

The convention committee on hotels reported having visited all the principal hotels in the city and gave rates offered at each. On motion the hotel La Salle was unanimously chosen as the headquarters for the convention.

Under Exhibitions, Mr. V. M. Brand showed four patterns of coins for the first Republic of Cuba and thirteen patterns for the coinage of Hayti as as Kingdom and Empire, all in silver, and Mr. Green showed the Dr. Heath Memorial Medal.

The following magazines were received since last meeting: Mehl's Monthly, Numismatischer Verkehr, Spink's Circular, Philatelic West and the Numismatist, all for April. Auction catalogs from Green, Dr. Hirsch, Low, Merwin-Clayton Co. and Schulman; catalog with fixed prices from Cahn and a priced catalog from Low. The report of the Director of the Mint on the production of the precious metals in 1909 was added to the library.

Adjourned to meet June 2nd, 1911. BEN G. GREEN, Secretary.

Legal Tender

All the money circulated in the United States is taken at its face value and few persons ever investigate whether the money they may receive consists of bank notes, gold certificates, silver certificates, or treasury notes. Yet while all this money is equally good in a practical sense, all is not legal tender. Legal tender is currency or coin which a creditor must accept in payment of a debt. The question is often asked as to just what makes legal tender and the Indianapolis News explains the matter as follows:

"Uncle Sam officially has ten kinds of money: Gold coins, standard silver dollars, subsidiary silver, gold certificates, silver certificates, treasury (1890) notes, United States (greenbacks) notes, national bank notes, nickel coins and bronze coins. While some of this paper currency is not legal tender, minor coins are legal tender in small amount. Legal tender is so called because in payment of a debt or obligation of any kind it can be forced on the creditor 'in full of all demand.' Gold certificates, silver certificates and national bank notes, despite the enormous quantity in circulation, are not legal tender. So far as silver coin is concerned, only $10 worth of 'halves,' 'quarters' and 'dimes' are legal tender, and as to nickel and copper coins, only 25 cents can be forced on the creditor. However, with the standard silver dollar, there is no limit to the amount to be paid in liquidation of a claim. The creditor can refuse the silver certificate, but when it comes to the dollar it must be received at its face value."

In every day business, gold and silver certificates and bank notes are received as practical legal tender. While not legal tender, the gold certificates are better protected as to their solvency than actual legal tender issues, since the latter have back of them simply the guarantee of the government, while the gold certificates have both that guarantee and the amounts of gold represented by the certificates. For each dollar in silver certificates there is also deposited a silver dollar in the United States Treasurry, but the actual value of this silver is only about half its face value.

Practically the only case in which care is used in paying indebtedness with legal tender is in the settling of clearances between banks. The balances in such cases are generally paid with legal tender. Balances owed to foreign banks or bankers are always paid in gold.

BANK NOTES TURN TO DUST.

The money counters in the United States treasury were startled one day by the appearance of a remarkable looking "fat man" who entered the department and told a strange tale. He said he was an Ohio farmer and did not believe in banks and so had buried his money in the ground for safe-keeping. He had dug it up and was horrified to find that it was slowly turning to dust, as notes will when long buried.

Panic-stricken, he gathered the disintegrated money into an old pillow-case, bound it around his waist beneath his clothes and started for Washington.

He traveled part of the way on horseback, part of the way on an Ohio river steamboat, and part of the way by train. During the journey he never once took off the pillow-case. He even slept with it on. The officials of the treasury department found it difficult to make him part with it. He did not want to go with a clerk to a hotel for fear the clerk might rob him, but as it was manifestly impossible for him to disrobe in the office he had finally to submit.

They got the money at last, and the condition of it was so bad that Mrs. Leonard, an expert, had to be called to decipher it. So great was her skill that the farmer lost only a few hundred dollars out of 19,000.

THE EARLIEST COINS.

Earliest history refers familiarly to the use of gold and silver as a purchasing medium, but the metals were exchanged in the form of bars or dust for many centuries. Even today the Chinese prefer their gold and silver in bullion form. In the great African desert a sale is for so many ounces of gold dust. The credit of making the first gold coins is given to the Lydians by Herodotus, and the first silver coins are supposed to have been minted on the Island of Egina, 860 B. C. There are to be found in the various large museums of the world coins of Persia issued 350 B. C. The earliest coins known in Palestine were called Daric, or King's money (from Darius), and were coined 450 B. C. In the year 139 B. C. Antiochus VII. granted the privilege of coining money among the Jews to Simon Maccabeus, and the various pieces are dated "in the first (or second) year of Simon, benefactor of the Jews, high priest." The earliest biblical mention of wealth is that of Abraham, when he left Egypt to return to Canaan, and the 1,000 pieces of silver that Abimelech gave to Abraham for Sarah's use. Abraham bought the cave of Machpelah and weighed to Ephron 400 shekels of silver. Achan stole a wedge of gold weighing fifty shekels.—Montreal Standard.

VALUABLE MEDAL MISSING.

It is reported that the gold medal designed by St. Gaudens in honor of the inauguration of President Roosevelt is missing from the State Library of Albany, which was recently destroyed by fire.

COINS FROM THE SEA.

Great havoc was caused at Thorpness, Aldeburgh, recently, by the high tide, the beach being robbed of an estimated million tons of sand. On the mainland the bungalows which were formerly 100 yards away are now within a few feet of high-water mark. The seas have washed out of the sands hundreds of coins, gold, silver, and bronze, dated from early Saxon times, antique bronze rings and ornaments, and an old bronze bag-clasp, with a silver inscription, said to be of King John's period.—The Daily Telegraph, London.

Gold in transit by sea "sweats," however tightly it may be packed. It is usually sent in stout kegs, and squeezed in as tightly as possible; but there is a regular allowance for loss by attrition upon the voyage.

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Mehl's Numismatic Monthly

ATTEND THE
American Numismatic Association
COVENTION
CHICAGO
WEEK OF AUGUST 28, 1911

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EDITED AND PUBLISHED BY

B. Max Mehl

NUMISMATIST

FORT WORTH, TEXAS, U. S. A.

AGAIN

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FORT WORTH, TEXAS

Mehl's Numismatic Monthly

Vol. IV. FORT WORTH, TEXAS, JULY-AUGUST, 1911 No. 7-8

Newspaper and Magazine Clippings pertaining to Coins thankfully received. Contributions from those interested in the Science solicited and liberally paid for

NUMISMATIC BY-PATHS

A LITERARY CABINET

Written for MEHL'S NUMISMATIC MONTHLY

By B. H. SAXTON

First Vice-President of the American Numismatic Association.

[Ed. Note: The following article is somewhat out of the ordinary, but we do not hesitate to bespeak for it a very welcome reception at the hands of our readers, especially by those who enjoy the literature of numismatics in its diversified form. While it may not appeal to the collectors who do not love their books (if they have them), yet we think there are many who will be interested. Stevenson, Dumas, Dickens and Victor Hugo make an almost universal appeal, and we do not doubt that the incidents will be familiar to many of our readers. There is no good reason why numismatic publications should be unsuitable for an occasional bit of fiction, especially if it be appropriate to the nature of the magazine, and historically correct. We invite our readers to express their views on this subject, and if this article meets with the approval of our readers, we shall make an especial effort to supply their desires in the future.]

Briefly, it happened thus: I had, on the day previous, picked up in the elevated a portfolio, evidently forgotten by its departing owner. Reaching home, I found it to contain a small number of unmounted etchings—a Meryon, two or three Hadens, a Whistler, and an unsigned proof which I did not recognize—gems, every one. Upon turning to the "Lost" column the following morning, I was not disappointed to see that the collector had taken prompt steps in this direction at least to retrieve his loss. The address given was in an old fashioned part of the town, still as exclusive as it was forty years ago; and eight o'clock found me, with the portfolio under my arm, before a house with an atmosphere of most dignified retirement. I gained admittance and stated my errand.

It was no difficult matter to see how deeply my new found acquaintance appreciated the return of his treasures; and, to tell the truth, it needed but a few moments to convince me that what had at first been but a duty had suddenly become a pleasure fully as great. After relating to him the circumstances of their rescue, and incidentally revealing my own interest in the etchings, he pressed me to remain for at least a short visit, suggesting that he might have still others worthy of inspection. I gladly consented, and accompanied him into the library.

I have called this room a library, and rightly so, if the presence of well upon a thousand volumes, evidently selected by a booklover of most discriminating taste could make it such. But it was more than that; for the walls were hung with pictures worthy of a place in any art gallery; the rugs were a delight; a tall glass case at one end of the room held a collection of pottery remarkable for its beauty, the product of many countries and of half as many centuries.

As for my host, it must suffice to say that he was a man upwards of sixty, his whole bearing testifying to an inborn refinement. From the first, I felt his to be a personality of exceptional attractiveness, and that he was one refreshingly apart from the tiresome commonplaces of life; nor was I mistaken. After looking through the promised collection of etchings, a rare privilege in itself, my eye fell upon a quaintly carved cabinet of rosewood, not over eighteen inches high, and perhaps as many wide, standing on a small, flat topped desk in the opposite corner of the room. My questioning glance being noted, I was not long kept in doubt.

"That," he said, "contains some of my most treasured possessions. I call it my Literary Cabinet. Books and pictures are to be had for a price, but a king's ransom could not duplicate a single one of the coins in that cabinet."

"So you are a coin collector, as well as myself," I exclaimed with new interest. "We have several things in common, it appears, but this is especially pleasing to me."

"No," he replied, "I am not a collector in the usual sense of the word, but I feel that I know enough of your tastes to be sure of your appreciation."

He arose, stepped over to the cabinet and unlocked the doors. There were a number of shallow drawers, the upper one of which he opened. It was lined with heavy, purple velvet, and contained but one coin, lying in a slight depression in the center. It was of gold, a Louis d'or, dated 1641, the obverse bearing the effigy of Louis XIII.

"You would hardly guess from its preservation that it had lain at the bottom of a river for nearly three hundred years?"

"Indeed, no," I replied. "What of its history?"

"I scarcely need ask you if you remember the execution of Milady."

"Such things are not forgotten," I answered, "for Dumas has made it a shuddering reality."

He took from the shelves *The Three Musketeers* and turned to the last few pages.

"Let us go over it again—perhaps the coin will take on an added interest for you:" and he read aloud the brief story.

> "Where am I to die?" she asked.
>
> "On the other bank," replied the executioner.
>
> Then he made her enter the boat, and just as he was going to set foot in it himself, Athos handed him a sum of money.
>
> "Here," said he, "is the price of the execution, that it may be plain that we are acting as judges."
>
> "Very well," said the executioner; "and now, in her turn, let this woman see that I am not fulfilling my trade, but my duty."
>
> And he threw the money into the river. . . .
>
> Milady, during the passage, had contrived to untie the cord which fastened her feet; on reaching the bank, she jumped lightly on shore and took to flight.
>
> But the soil was moist; when she reached the top of the bank, she slipped and fell on her knees.
>
> A superstitious idea struck her; she realized that heaven denied her its aid, and she remained in the attitude in which she had fallen, with her head drooping and her hands clasped.
>
> Then from the other bank the executioner was seen to raise both his arms slowly. A moonbeam fell on the blade of his broad sword; his two arms fell; they heard the hissing of the cimeter and the victim's cry; then a truncated mass sank under the blow.
>
> The executioner took off his red cloak, spread it on the ground, laid the body on it, threw in the head, tied it by the four corners, lifted it on his shoulder, and got into the boat again.

In the middle of the stream he stopped the boat, and holding his burden over the water,—

"Let the justice of God be done!" cried he, in a loud voice.

And he let the body drop into the depths of the waters, which closed over it.

"And this Louis d'or," added my host, handing me the gold piece for closer inspection, "is one of the coins given the executioner by Athos, over three centuries ago."

"It surely possesses a grim interest," I replied, "which would be hard to equal. It is almost inconceivable that the piece should be rescued from what would seem certain oblivion; but how fortunate, not only that it was recovered, but that it should be possessed by one who values it at its true worth."

"There is another scene," I added, "that will live in my memory as long as any in fiction, and your recalling the execution of Milady impels me to speak of it: the brutal hanging of La Esmeralda, after days and weeks of persecution following her thrilling rescue from the very shadow of the gibbet by Quasimodo."

My host's face lighted up.

"You remember the beginning," he asked, "the night the priest followed the captain, the piece of money he forced upon him and what became of it?"

"The crown transformed into a dry leaf,' I quickly answered. "Another link in the chain of false evidence. Let us read it."

He handed me *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*, and after a moment's search I found the passage.

Two or three rickety tables and stools occupied the middle of the floor; a dirty boy was playing in the ashes, and at the further end the stairs, or rather ladder, led up to a trap door in the ceiling. On entering this den, the captain's mysterious companion drew his cloak up to his eyes, while Phoebus kept swearing like a Turk. He put into the hand of the old woman the coin which had been given to him by the stranger. The crone, who called him monseigneur at every other word, deposited the crown in a drawer. When her back was turned, the ragged urchin rose from the hearth, slyly went to the drawer, took out the piece of money, and put a dry leaf which he had pulled from a fagot in its place.

"Now the end, with the priest and Quasimodo watching from the tower."

Meanwhile the man began to mount the ladder. Quasimodo now distinctly saw again. He carried across his shoulder a female, a young female dressed in white; this young female had a rope about her neck. Quaisimodo knew her. It was the Egyptian!

The man reached the top of the ladder. Then he arranged the rope. The priest, in order to see the better, now knelt down upon the balustrade.

The man suddenly kicked away the ladder, and Quasimodo, who had not breathed for some moments, saw the unfortunate girl, with the man crouched upon her shoulders, dangling at the end of the rope within two or three yards of the pavement. The rope made several revolutions, and Quasimodo saw the body of the victim writhe in frightful convulsions. The priest, on his part, with outstretched neck and eyes starting from his head, contemplated the terrific group of the man and the young girl, the spider and the fly.

"Here is the crown," said the other, after a brief silence, opening the second drawer; and he handed me from that wonderful cabinet of his a silver piece of Louis XI, struck in 1463.

"This crown must have been almost new when Captain Phoebus parted with it," I remarked, "and indeed its preservation is excellent, even now. I have

often wondered if that ragged urchin ever suffered the punishment he so richly deserved for the theft that indirectly resulted in so great a tragedy."

"It is too much to hope for," was the reply. "In this, as in many things in real life, we see the need of retribution far oftener than its presence. Granting that justice exists in these cases, it is usually obscure."

"The execution of Milady was horrible, but just," said I, handing back the piece about which clung vivid memories; "but the death of La Esmeralda, with that brute of a hangman crouching on her shoulders as she dropped, was more than horrible—it was hideous in its injustice. The only redeeming feature in the whole miserable affair was that the priest so promptly met his own death, and in so frightful a manner."

"Here is another bit of Victor Hugo, but without the tragedy of the last," and my host took from the third drawer a silver two-franc piece, scratched and worn, but still plainly showing the head of Napoleon, and the date, 1811.

"Tell me the book and I will hazard a guess as to its former owner," said I.

"Les Miserables."

"Ah, then, did it not belong to little Gervais? Let me find that also."

I took the proffered volume and turned to the incident.

> While singing the lad stopped every now and then to play at pitch and toss with some coins he held in his hand, which were probably his entire fortune. Among these coins was a two-franc piece.
>
> The lad stopped by the side of the bushes without seeing Jean Valjean, and threw up the handful of sous, all of which he had hitherto always caught on the back of his hand.
>
> This time the two-franc piece fell, and rolled up to Jean Valjean, who placed his foot upon it. But the boy had looked after the coin and seen him do it; he did not seem surprised, but walked straight up to the man.
>
> It was an utterly deserted spot, and as far as the eye could extend there was no one on the plain or the path. Nothing was audible save the faint cries of a swarm of birds of passage passing through the sky at an immense height. The boy had his back turned to the sun, which wove golden threads in his hair, and suffused Jean Valjean's face with a purpled, blood-red hue.
>
> "Sir," the little Savoyard said, with that childish confidence which is composed of ignorance and innocence, "my coin?"
>
> "What is your name?" Jean Valjean said.
>
> "Little Gervais, sir."
>
> "Be off," said Jean Valjean.
>
> "Give me my coin, if you please, sir."
>
> Jean Valjean hung his head, but said nothing.
>
> The boy began again: "My two-franc piece, sir."
>
> Jean Valjean's eyes remained fixed on the ground.
>
> "My coin," the boy cried. "My silver piece, my money."
>
> It seemed as if Jean Valjean did not hear him, for the boy seized the collar of his blouse and shook him, and at the same time made an effort to remove the iron-shod shoe placed on his coin.
>
> "I want my money, my forty-sous piece."
>
> The boy began crying, and Jean Valjean raised his head. He was still sitting on the ground, and his eyes were misty. He looked at the lad with a sort of amazement, then stretched forth his hand for his stick and shouted in a terrible voice, "Who is this?"
>
> "I, sir," the boy replied. "Little Gervais; give me back my two francs, if you please. Take away your foot, sir, if you please." Then he grew irritated, though so little, and almost threatening. "Come, will you remove your foot, I say?"
>
> "Ah, it is you still," said Jean Valjean, and, springing up, with his foot still on the coin, he added, "Will you be off, or not?"
>
> The startled boy looked at him, then began trembling from head to foot, and after a few moments of stupor, ran off at full speed, without

daring to look back or utter a cry. Still, when he had got a certain distance want of breath forced him to stop, and Jean Valjean could hear him sobbing. In a few minutes the boy had disappeared.

"But let this remind us of more cheerful things," said the old gentleman, turning again to the cabinet. He held up an English shilling, somewhat worn, but bright, struck in 1821 and bearing the head of George IV. I puzzled a short while over it, but to no purpose.

"You must give me a hint, at least," said I.

"Who came back to work out the shilling?" he asked, with a smile.

"Kit!" I cried, and he nodded pleasant assent. "Good old, simple-minded, big-hearted Kit. That was a lucky shilling for him, and worth his keeping. If I have read *Old Curiosity Shop* once I have read it a dozen times. Let's have the shilling episode again."

He turned to the chapter and read the incident.

There was a great to-do to make the pony hold up his head that the bearing rein might be fastened; at last even this was effected; and the old gentleman, taking his seat and the reins, put his hand into his pocket to find a six-pence for Kit.

He had no six-pences, neither had the old lady, nor the Notary, nor Mr. Chuckster. The old gentleman thought a shilling too much, but there was no shop in the street to get change at, so he gave it to the boy.

"There," he said jokingly, "I'm coming here again next Monday at the same time, and mind you're here, my lad, to work it out."

"Thank you, sir," said Kit. "I'll be sure to be here."

He was quite serious, but they all laughed heartily at his saying so, especially Mr. Chuckster, who roared outright, and appeared to relish the joke amazingly.

As the pony, with a presentiment that he was going home, or a determination that he would not go anywhere else (which was the same thing), trotted away pretty nimbly, Kit had no time to justify himself, and went his way also. Having expended his treasure in such purchases as he knew would be most acceptable at home, not forgetting some seed for the wonderful bird, he hastened back as fast as he could, so elated with his success and great good fortune, that he more than half expected that Nell and the old man would have arrived before him.

"And so this is the shilling," said I, turning it over in my hand. "It was like Kit to spend it as he did, and it was like him to go back the following week and finish earning it. And yet some say that Dickens overdraws his characters."

A shade of annoyance passed over my companion's face.

"Not overdrawn, but realized," he returned. "Often have I seen men and women of whom I have said to myself, How Dickens would have relished this one! No," he continued earnestly, "he seems to exaggerate them only to those of us who are so careless of everyday life that we are surprised and incredulous when it is revealed by a master hand. He has applied a magnifying glass, perhaps, but after all, we see nothing that is unreal."

"I most heartily agree with you there," I said. "For instance, I know more than one Pecksniff."

"But there is one character who seems to be in a class by himself, unique, as it were, and that is Quilp. I have never yet seen his like in real life—nor," he added with a reminiscent chuckle, "do I wish to."

"I suppose it is almost too much to hope that your collection, wonderful as it is, contains the gold piece which decided so much in the early chapters of *The Master of Ballantrae?*"

The other gave me a smile of genuine pleasure. "You shall see in a moment," he answered, as he turned to his bookshelves once more. "Let this serve as its introduction:"

> "I say this, Harry," returned the Master, "that when very obstinate folk are met, there are only two ways out: Blows—and I think none of us could care to go so far; or the arbitrament of chance—and here is a guinea piece. Will you stand by the toss of the coin?"
>
> "I will stand and fall by it," said Mr. Henry. "Heads, I go; shield, I stay."
>
> The coin was spun and it fell shield. "So there is a lesson for Jacob," says the Master.
>
> "We shall live to repent of this," says Mr. Henry, and flung out of the hall.
>
> As for Miss Allison, she caught up that piece of gold which had just sent her lover to the wars, and flung it clean through the family shield in the great painted window.

The fifth drawer of the cabinet was pulled out, and there lay, in beautiful condition, a guinea struck in 1746, with the laureate bust of George II.

"There," said its owner, "is the coin you hoped to see; and, possibly because it was one of the hardest to secure, it is not by any means the least valued of these treasures. As a collector, you will hardly fail to note the I.I.M.A beneath the head."

I had, and remembered its significance.

"It is a pity Stevenson did not know of its presence on the coin," I added; "for he, above all others, would have felt its romantic appeal. Surely it was fitting, so long as a coin was to decide such a momentous question, that this should be the one."

So intensely interesting had the evening been, that until this moment I had taken no thought of the hour. I quickly glanced at my watch and was surprised to find it near midnight. I rose to depart, notwithstanding my host's protests.

"We were becoming old acquaintances at a famous rate," said he. "I have been doubly fortunate: not only have my prints been restored, but I have found a new and most congenial friend."

"Next to seeing this wonderful collection, I should most enjoy hearing the history of its acquisition—unless," I added with a smile, "there are state secrets."

"Indeed you shall hear it," was his hearty rejoinder. "You must come again, not once, but many times, for each coin has an evening's story; nor have you yet seen all of them. I doubt not you will find some of the tales almost incredible, but they are as true as the existence of the pieces themselves."

This was excellent news to me, and after thanking him for one of the most keenly enjoyable evenings I had ever spent, we bade each other good-night.

I glanced back as I came to a near-by turn in the street, and saw him still at the open door, silhouetted against the lighted interior of the hall; and that momentary picture only served to deepen my gratitude for the lucky chance that had brought me to the lost portfolio.

"NEW ISSUE" OF GREAT IMPORTANCE.

A "New Issue" of great importance to Mr. and Mrs. B. Max Mehl arrived on July 2, 1911, in the form of a beautiful baby girl. And since her arrival the stock of joy and happiness in the Mehl household has been inexhaustible.

Program of the American Numismatic Association Convention, to be Held in Chicago, Week of August 28.

[The following program has been received from the Secretary of the Chicago Numismatic Society, and although there may be a few changes made in the program, there is enough "given out" to insure a real enjoyable time for all A. N. A. members who will avail themselves of the opportunity to share in the hospitality of the Chicago members of the Association.]

The program of the convention so far as decided upon is as follows:

First Day, Monday, August 28.

10 a. m.—Resigstration of members and installation of exhibits at the Art Institute. 1:30 p. m.—Meeting of the A. N. A. 8 p. m.—Reception tendered by the Chicago Numismatic Society to the convention visitors at the Hotel La Salle.

Second Day, Tuesday, August 29.

Business sessions of the American Numismatic Association at 10 a. m. and 1:30 p. m.

Third Day, Wednesday, August 30.

Will be given over to a sight-seeing trip or a trip on the lake. Convention auction in the evening at 8 o'clock.

Fourth Day, Thursday, August 31.

Business sessions beginning at 10 a. m. and until all business is finished. 6:30 p. m—Banquet.

All A. N. A. members are urged to attend the convention, and are assured of a good time. Chicago is noted for its summer resort weather, also for its hospitality to convention people. We think our weather man has worked off most of his hot weather and that nothing is left on tap but the finest brand, and this will be furnished without stint during the convention. You know that some whist players work off their bad cards first, and we confidently believe that this has been the policy of our genial weather maker.

The average maximum daily temperature in August in Chicago for the past five years has been below 80, and the daily mean temperature (not the mean that some of you readers may imagine) for the same period has been about 72 degrees—not bad for dog days, I think you will agree. If the weather man should make a slip and turn on the heat any day during the convention, our famous street car sight-seeing car rides are at their disposal, which can be had at about the rate of 20 miles for a nickel, or a fine bath for a quarter.

BEN G. GREEN.

[Editor's Note: Mr. Green, it seems, forgot to mention many other "cool and refreshing" things that may be had for a "nickel" in Chicago. But the editor having visited Chicago on several occasions knows that whatever taste and inclination for enjoyment any conventionite may have, he will be able to gratify them.]

The War of The Spanish Succession and Some of its Coins

Written for MEHL'S NUMISMATIC MONTHLY

By "PORTUGUESE JOE."

[It should have been stated at the beginning of the publication of this series of papers, two of which have already appeared, that they have been prepared expressly for the young collector for the purpose of directing his attention to a few of the many coins with historical associations, principally the less expensive issues. A collection of coins of this class should be of far greater interest to the real student than a mere collection of dates in the U. S. series. The coins will be described from an historical point of view, serving only as an introduction to the coins.]

The year 1911 marks the two hundredth anniversary of the death of the Austrian Emperor Joseph I, which occurred in April, 1711, and the crowning of his younger brother, the Archduke Charles, as his successor on December 22 of the same year. These events paved the way for the termination of the long War of the Spanish Succession by the signing of the treaty of peace at Utrecht in 1713 and that of Radstat in 1714, bringing to a close the war that had raged through nearly all of Western Europe since early in the century.

The death of Charles II of Spain occurred on October 31, 1700, and as it was felt that no heir was likely to be born to him, nearly all Europe had lived under the shadow of an impending catastrophe during the latters years of his reign. The question of the succession to the crown of Spain was one which required the highest powers of statesmanship for its solution, as it was complicated by the nicest points of European policy, of international law and of public and private honor.

Portrait Medal of Charles VI of Austria, in Gold. Struck to Commemorate the Peace of Radstadt in 1714.

As early as 1668 Louis XIV of France, with his usual diplomatic foresight, had concluded with Emperor Leopold of Austria a secret treaty for the partition of the Spanish dominions after the death of Charles II without heirs. But the succeeding thirty years had brought about conditions which made it impossible to carry out the terms of the treaty. In 1697, when it became apparent that Charles II would live but a short time longer, King Louis began negotiating with England and the United Province of Holland for a new treaty regarding the Spanish dominions.

At that time there were three possible claimants to the Spanish throne:

1. Philip, Duke of Anjou, grandson of Louis XIV and second son of the Dauphin.
2. Charles, Archduke of Austria, second son of Emperor Leopold.
3. Joseph Ferdinand, Electoral Prince of Bavaria.

The claims of the Duke of Anjou and the Bavarian Prince were based on hereditary descent from the two sisters of Charles II. Upon the marriage of the elder sister, Maria Theresa, to Louis XIV, she had, for certain considerations, renounced all claims for herself or descendants to the throne of Spain. The younger sister, Margaret Theresa, had married Emperor Leopold, and their only issue, Maria Antonia, had married Maximilian II. Emanuel, the Elector of Bavaria, parents of the Electoral Prince. Upon her marriage Maria Antonia had also renounced all claims to the Spanish inheritance.

If the claims of these two were to be eliminated in solving the problem, recourse must be had to the descendants of Philip III. Here, again, the question lay between two sisters. The older, Anna, was the mother of Louis XIV, and she also had, upon her marriage to Louis XIII, renounced her claims to the Spanish throne. The younger sister, Maria, was the mother of Emperor Leopold. She had made no renunciation whatever, and Leopold held that by right of descent and law he was the inheritor of the Spanish throne, and passed the right to his second son, Archduke Charles, just as Louis and the Dauphin passed theirs to the Duke of Anjou. The Archduke was the second son of the Emperor by his second marriage with Eleanor, daughter of Philip William of Neuburg, Elector Palatine of the Rhine.

Two Reals of Charles III, Pretender, Struck for Use in Spain.

Below the purely legal aspect of the question was one of policy. The great object of France was to prevent an Austrian succession to the throne of Spain, and the principal thing desired by England and other European powers was to prevent a French succession. The selection of the Electoral Prince of Bavaria seemed the most satisfactory solution, and a treaty was accordingly signed which provided that the Bavarian Prince, barely five years old, should succeed to the Spanish throne and should retain the Indies and the Netherlands, and her other possessions were to be divided between the Dauphin and Archduke Charles.

It was only natural that Charles II should be angry when news of the parceling of his dominions reached him, but he decided to make the best of the situation and executed a will in favor of the young Prince. But on February 6, 1699, before he came into his inheritance, the Electoral Prince died, and the labor of months was lost. Without a moment's hesitation King Louis took up the web of diplomacy and began negotiating for a new treaty. It soon became apparent that Archduke Charles was the only candidate for the Spanish crown whom England and the United Provinces would accept, and Louis was finally compelled to yield. The second partition treaty was signed in May, 1699, and was much more advantageous to Austria than the previous one. The Archduke Charles was to have all the Spanish inheritance except the Milanese, which was to be given to the Duke of Lorraine, for which he was to cede his Duchy to France.

Notwithstanding the existence of this treaty great pressure was brought to bear upon Charles II in his last days to make a will in favor of France, and when the will was opened it was found that the whole inheritance of the crown of Spain was given to Philip, Duke of Anjou. If Philip refused to accept, the right to it was to pass wholly to the Archduke Charles.

For several days all Europe hung breathless in suspense as to what course Louis would take. His advisors were divided in opinion, but the Dauphin insisted on the rights of his son, and on November 16, at Paris, Louis repudiated the partition treaty he had assisted in framing, and proclaimed his grandson the King of Spain.

The calm which followed was not, as Louis knew, an indication that war would be averted. Emperor Leopold began preparations the following spring to enforce the treaty rights of his son, and it was acknowledged even by France that if one other strong power determined to draw the sword, war would run riot over Europe. Louis was prepared, and even invited war, when, upon the death of the exiled James II of England, in September, 1701, he recognized his son James as the rightful King of England. During the winter of 1701-2 the Grand Alliance was arranged between England, Austria, Holland, the King of Prussia and the Grand Duke of Hesse, with the object of destroying the tyranny of Louis and breaking up the Franco-Spanish monarchy. In May, 1702, war was declared, and Louis found himself once more face to face with indignant Europe.

Necessity Gulden of Ulm.

The war was prosecuted with vigor on both sides until the death of Emperor Joseph, in 1711, when Charles succeeded to the Austrian throne, but it was several months later before he could be persuaded to leave Spain, and it was not until the conclusion of the Peace of Utrecht that he finally resigned his claim to the Spanish throne. Emperor Leopold had died in 1705, and his son Joseph had as vigorously supported his brother's claim as had their father, and such were the blows inflicted on France by the victories at Blenheim and other places that he war was expected to end in the complete humiliation of France. The year 1706 presented one continued series of defeats and losses for France and Spain. In the peninsula Philip V saw his fairest provinces conquered by the Allies, his very capital invaded and his rival proclaimed King in his place. In 1703 a treaty had been negotiated between England and Portugal, and by the accession of Portugal to the Grand Alliance an opening was made for the Archduke Charles to attempt to make good his claims to the Spanish throne. At Vienna, on September 19, 1703, Charles was proclaimed King of Spain, and proceeded to that country by way of the Low Countries, England and Lisbon, landing at that port in 1704 with a force of troops under Schomberg. He failed to reach Madrid at the first attempt, and Galway replaced Schomberg in 1705. Later he sailed around the

coast of Spain and landed in Catalonia and made himself master of Aragon. In 1706 Galway determined to support the success achieved in Aragon by marching upon Madrid from Portugal. The French forces were engaged elsewhere, and Galway occupied Madrid and proclaimed the Archduke almost without opposition.

The main issues of the war, perhaps, were decided by the battle of Blenheim. The loss to France of her veterans was crushing. She could not again tyrannize over Europe. She might win victories, she might defend her frontiers, and she might even emerge honorably from the contest, but she could no more hope to dictate terms to Europe after Blenheim than she could a century later after the retreat from Moscow.

The two Generals who were so successful in prosecuting the war and winning the victories for the Allies were the Duke of Marlborough of England and Prince Eugene of Savoy. The Duke of Marlborough was Captain-General of the English forces, and it was by his counsels that most of the operations of the Allies were regulated. He was also appointed Ambassador to Holland, and on arriving there, in 1702, he was chosen Generalissimo of the whole Allied army destined to operate in the Netherlands. Prince Eugene, although of French birth, had indignantly renounced his country several years previous to the time of the war upon the refusal of King Louis to grant him a commission in the army, and because of the banishment of his mother to the Low Countries by order of the King. He entered the service of Emperor Leopold, and in 1701 was placed in command of the army in Italy.

Crown of Joseph I., Struck at Munich During the Occupation by Austria.

The coins which owe their existence to the War of the Spanish Succession are not numerous, but they are full of interest, as nearly all of them are siege or necessity pieces. Reference to the principal issus are made below.

The coins of Philip V of Spain are not referred to, as they are a continuation of the regular Spanish series.

Coins of Charles III, Pretender.—First is the series of two reals issued by Charles for Spain. The obverse has the crowned arms separating the value, and the inscription, "Carolus III, D. G." The reverse has "Carolus" in monogram within a beaded circle below a crown, and the inscription "Hispaniarum Rex," and the date. They are all of one type and bear dates of every year from 1701 to 1714. That Charles did not abandon hope of again uniting the crowns of Austria and Spain until the Peace of Utrecht seems to be supported by the issue of these coins for three years after his accession to the Austrian throne. To what extent these coins of the Pretender were accepted in Spain

may be questioned. They are quite common, indicating a plentiful issue, and are found in all grades of preservation. It is probable, however, that their use was confined mainly to those provinces where the Hapsburg party was strongest. When we consider that until very recent years ancient Roman bronze coins were still in circulation in some parts of rural Spain, it would seem that the issuing authority of a coinage did not play a very important part, so long as the coins were accepted. On the other hand, we have evidence that a century after this period a portion of the people of Spain did exercise discrimination by refusing the coins of Joseph Bonaparte.

The "Vigo" Coins of Queen Anne.—In the fall of 1702 it was expected that the French Admiral Chateau-Renault would shortly arrive at one of the Atlantic seaports of Spain or France with a squadron conveying treasure galleons from the West Indies. The English ministers learned that on September 28 the French Admiral had arrived at Vigo Bay with his fleet and seventeen galleons, and dispatches were sent to Admiral George Rooke, who was making his way back to England after his expedition against Cadiz had failed, to proceed at once to Vigo. Before the dispatches reached him, Rooke had learned by accident that the French Admiral had reached Vigo. He steered at once for that port, and on October 22 came to an anchor off the bay. The French Admiral had brought his fleet and treasure galleons into the inner harbor, and across its narrow mouth had laid a strong boom. It was decided by Rooke that the Allied troops should land and attack the battery and tower,

Copper Coins of the Siege of Lille for 5, 10 and 20 Sols.

and when these were captured the ships would burst the boom and attack Chateau-Renault. The program was carried out, and the leading ship, the "Torbay," Captain Andrew Leake, steered straight for the middle of the boom and broke it. The battle was short but decisive, and fourteen galleons were captured before the order of the French Admiral to destroy them could be carried out. The value of the booty captured was about £1,000,000, and this was principally in merchandise, most of the treasure having previously been removed inland.

It was from the treasure thus captured that the coins of Queen Anne of England bearing the word "Vigo" below the bust were minted. A few are dated 1702, but the greater part of them are dated 1703, and consist of the half guinea, guinea and five guineas in gold, and the sixpence, shilling, half crown and crown in silver. With this exception they are similar in design to her other coins.

Coins of Ulm.—Ulm is a town of Wurtemberg, Danube Province, and an imperial fortress of the first class. The various routes which converge at Ulm have made it at all times a strategic point of great importance. The defensive works embrace also the Bavarian town of New Ulm, on the opposite side of the River Danube, united with the older city by stone bridges.

In 1702, after the taking of Landau by the Imperialists, the Elector of Bavaria declared war against Austria and seized Ulm. In September, 1704, the city was besieged and taken by the Imperialists under Baron von Thungen. There is a klippe gulden of Ulm, dated 1704, that by some is classed as a siege piece, and by others as a coinage struck from silver plate of the inhabitants to help defray the expenses of the war. The obverse bears the city arms, and the reverse has a crowned double eagle.

A Crown of the Occupation of Munich.—During the progress of the war Emperor Leopold died, on May 9, 1705, and was succeeded by his eldest son, Joseph I. His ambition was directed to the extension of the Austrian power in Italy and Bavaria. Maximilian II Emanuel of Bavaria had sided with France in the struggle, and with the defeat of the French and Bavarians at Blenheim, on August 13, 1704, by the English and Austrians under Marlborough and Prince Eugene, Bavaria was temporarily partitioned between Austria and the Elector Palatine. Munich, the capital of Bavaria, was occupied by Austria from 1705 to 1714. During the occupation coins were issued at Munich by Joseph I, one of the crowns being illustrated here, a star being the mint mark of Munich. Some small silver and copper coins were also issued from the Munich mint by Joseph during the occupation.

Siege Coins of Lille.—Lille is the capital of Nord, France, and was perhaps the greatest fortress on the frontier. It was formerly the ancient capital of Flanders. After a heroic resistance it surrendered to the Duke of Marlborough

Copper Coins of the Siege of Tournay. 8 and 2 Sols.

and Prince Eugene on October 22, 1708. The only coins of this siege are of copper and of three denominations—20, 10 and 5 Sols. On the obverse of the 20 Sols is the crowned arms of M. de Boufflers, Governor of the city, on two marshal's batons crossed, upon a ducal mantel. On the reverse is the inscription in six lines, "XX S Pro Defensione Urbis et Patria, 1708." The 10 and 5 Sols are similar, except that the ducal mantel is absent.

Siege Coins of Tournay.—Tournay is a city in Hainault, Belgium, near the French frontier, and about fifteen miles from Lille, and its location near the border has resulted in the city being frequently besieged and taken. In 1709 the French forces were in possession, and were besieged by the Allies under the Duke of Marlborough and Prince Eugene. The commander of the citadel was M. de Surville. After a siege of twenty-one days, in which both armies lost several hundred men, they surrendered to the Allies.

Both copper and silver coins were issued during the siege. The silver pieces are of the denomination of 20 Sols, and bear the inscription "M. de Surville," with his bust; above, "20;" below, a small tower (mint mark of Tournay). They are uniface and square, and were issued on July 13, 1709, and are said to have been struck from plate contributed by Commander de Surville.

The copper issues were of 2 and 8 Sols. The 2 Sols have the inscription

"Tornaco Obsesso" around a tower, with "2" above and "1709" below, with blank reverse. The one illustrated here is struck from another coin—a 2 Doits of Zelandia. The 8 Sols has on the obverse the crowned arms of M. de Surville, with the crown separating "8 S." The reverse has the inscription in five lines, "Moneta In obsIDIone torna Censi CVsa," the date (1709) being in chronogram.

Siege Coins of Aire.—Aire is a town in the Department of Pas-de-Calais, in Northern France. In the Middle Ages Aire belonged to the Counts of Flanders, from whom in 1188 it received a charter. It was given to France by the treaty of Utrecht. In 1710 it was besieged by the Allies, during the defense of which M. de Goesbriand, Governor of the city, issued pieces of two denominations, struck from silver plate contributed by the people of the city. They are of the denomination of 50 Sols and 25 Sols, or half and quarter crown. The 50 Sols bears the crowned arms of the Governor, which separates the date, 17 10, with the inscription "Pro Rege et Patria Aria, 50, Obs." These are octagonal, or, rather, square with corners clipped, and have a blank reverse. The 25 Sols is similar, except that the date is below the arms, and is square.

Crown and Half Crown of the Siege of Landau, 1713.

Siege Coins of Landau.—Landau is the chief town of an official district in the Palatinate to Bavaria, and possesses the distinction of having been taken no less than seven times during the thirty-year war in the preceding century. In 1702 the Imperialists, under the command of Lewis of Baden, besieged and took the fortress of Landau while in possession of Governor M. de Melac. During this siege a few pieces were issued, which are very rare. They were of three denominations, 4 livres and 4 sols, 2 livres and 2 sols, and 1 livre and 1 sol. They are irregular in shape, and are said to have been cut from silver goblets, some of the reverses showing the original engraving on the goblets. They bear the arms of the Governor in a round stamp in the center, and below is a stamp with the denomination and "Landau, 1702." Around the borders of the coins are stamped a number of fleur-de-lys, varying from 4 to 12, seemingly without regard to the size of the coin, some of the smaller denominations having more than the larger, and a different number of them may occur on pieces of the same denomination.

In 1703 Landau was again besieged and taken by Marshal Tallard, and in 1704, after the battle of Blenheim, it was retaken by the Margrave of Baden.

Even after all the other powers had accepted the treaty of Utrecht, Charles (now Charles VI of Austria) still refused to yield, and continued the war against France, but it was soon evident that, unsupported by the Allies, Aus-

tria was no match for Louis. In 1713 Landau was besieged by the French, and the coins issued during the defense form a set of most attractive siege pieces. The series is commonly referred to as the crown, half crown and quarter crown, the denominations being 2 florins and 8 kreuzers, 1 florin and 4 kreuzers, and one-half florin and 2 kreuzers. All are uniface and octagonal. The two larger denominations have the arms of Charles Alexander, Duke of Wurtemburg, bearing the date, 1713, stamped in the center. In the four corners, a crowned monogram, "C A"; above, "Pro Caes & Imp."; below, "Bel. Landau" and the denomination. The smaller denomination has the monogram in the center.

Silver Florin or Gulden and 20, 10 and 1 Poltura of the Malcontents.

Coins of the Malcontents.—Contemporaneous with the War of the Spanish Succession, though not really a part of it, was the uprising of the Hungarian subjects of Leopold I, commonly called the Malcontents, under the leadership of Francis Rakoczy II, a member of a distinguished Transylvania family which had played an important part in the affairs of Hungary for many years. Francis Rakoczy II was born in 1676. Toward the close of the century he was imprisoned on an accusation of conspiracy to incite rebellion, but he escaped to Poland and headed the insurrection against Leopold at the time the latter was engaged in the war against France. Rakoczy and his followers soon gained possession of Hungary and Transylvania, his operations being facilitated by subsidies obtained by King Louis. In 1705 the insurgent portion of Hungary united as a confederation and placed Rakoczy at the head. Dissensions sprang up later in the confederation while he was absent in Poland, and a treaty of peace was negotiated, but Rakoczy never acceded to it. He lived in exile in France and Turkey till his death, in 1735.

The coins issued by the confederation during its existence are in gold, silver and copper, all of which are comparatively common.

The gold ducats bear the crowned arms of Hungary on the obverse, and the reverse has the Virgin and Child and the inscription, "Patrona Hung"

The silver guldens or florins are similar in design to the gold ducats.

The copper coins are of the denominations of 20, 10 and 1 polutra. The obverses of the 20 and 10 polutras are similar, having only the crowned arms separating the date, while the obverse of the 1 polutra has the value and date in the legend enclosing the arms. The reverse of the 20 polutra bears the Virgin and Child and "Pro Liberate" above a cartouche containing the value. The reverse of the 10 polutra has only "Pro Liberate" above the cartouche, and the reverse of the 1 polutra has the Virgin and Child within the legend, "Hungarie Patrona." The mint mark may appear either on the obverse or reverse, and sometimes is absent altogether. Numerous die varieties exist of all denominations. The illustrations show the type of the entire series.

The principal mint marks are as follows: K. B., Kremnitz; N. B., Nagybanya; C. M., Kaschau; M. M., Miskolez; C. H., Pressburg.

During the uprising of the Malcontents some copper necessity pieces were struck at Eperies, a town in Upper Hungary. The obverse has a crowned "L," with the date, 1704, below. The reverse has "Eper Bloc" in two lines. I have seen the statement that this was an issue of the Malcontents. Judging from the inscription, it was struck during the blockade of Eperies, and the crowned "L" (for Leopold) indicates that it was an issue of the adherents of the Emperor. One of these pieces was recently listed in a sale catalogue among the coins of Leopold with the statement that it was an issue of Count Karl Szechenyi. There are also copper pieces of the regular issue of the Malcontents dated 1704 which were counterstamped with the figure of the Madonna by Commander Vilson in Eperies.

A preliminary agreement for peace was arrived at in September, 1711, between England and France, and was accepted with some protests by all the Allies except Charles, who had just succeeded his brother Joseph as Emperor of Austria. Accordingly a congress was held at Utrecht in 1712, and final peace was signed in 1713. Charles still refused to yield, and Prince Eugene was instructed to push on military operations in spite of the defection of England, but he was finally compelled to make peace.

By the treaties of Utrecht, Radstadt and Baden, grouped together under the name of the Peace of Utrecht, it was agreed that:

1. Philip was recognized as King of Spain on condition that the crowns of Spain and France should never be united on the same head.

2. Naples, the Milanese, Sardinia and the Netherlands were given to Austria, subject to the right of the Dutch to military government in several of the fortresses as a barrier against France.

3. France retained Alsace, but surrendered some of the fortresses on the Rhine which she had seized.

4. England received Gibraltar, Minorca, Newfoundland, Hudsons Bay, Acadia and St. Kitts, some of these being subject to certain rights, limitations and restrictions.

The War of the Spanish Succession was fought to prevent the House of Bourbon from ascending the throne of Spain, and after eleven years of bloodshed the treaty sanctioned the very contention between the two crowns of France and Spain which the Grand Alliance was formed to prevent. But any other conclusion was impossible. It might have been possible to place the Archduke Charles on the Spanish throne at the beginning of the war, but it was impossible in 1712, after the Spaniards themselves had driven him out without French assistance, and still more impossible after the death of his brother, Joseph, when he became Emperor.

Prices Realized at the Prof. Byron N. Rooks Sale

HELD ON JUNE 17, CATALOGUED AND SOLD BY B. MAX MEHL.

U. S. Silver.

1794 Dollar	$135.00
1836 Dollar	21.00
1852 Dollar	65.00
1904 Dollar, proof	4.00
1794 Half Dollar; good	3.25
1802 Half Dollar; near fine	8.40
1815 HalfDollar; near fine	3.80
1836 Milled edge	3.60
1852 Fine	3.50
1796 Half Dime	12.50
1805 Half Dime	12.50
1860 Half Dime, stars	5.50
1798 Dime	9.00
1804 Dime; very good to fine	40.00
1799 Cent; very good	31.00

Pioneer Gold.

1849 $10; Moffat & Co	35.00
1853 $20; Moffat & Co	50.00
1849 $10; Miners Bank	260.00
1860 $10; Colorado	50.00
1861 $20; Colorado	300.00
1850 $10; Baldwin & Co	425.00
1901 J. M. Slusher Silver—Octagon dollar size	11.15
1849 Mormon $5	40.00
English Coins, Oliver Cromwell Crown, 1658	20.00
English Coins, Chas. I. 1642 silver pound	24.00

U. S. Gold.

1907 $20; St. Gaudens	30.50
1795 $10	30.00
1796 $10	38.00
1797 $10; small eagle	82.75
1797 $10; Rev. of 1798	48.75
1804 $10	45.00
1795 $5.00	27.50
1799 $5.00	21.25
1814 $5.00	23.00
1818 $5.00	25.50
1879 $4.00; proof	101.00
1865 $3.00	40.00
1876 $3.00	200.00
1797 $2.50, Gold	225.00
1806 over 04	55.00
1824 over 21	45.00
1825 Unc.	40.00
1831 and 1832	25.00
1860 Gold Dollar	10.00
1860 S. Mint Gld Dol	15.00
1861 D. Mint Gld Dol	225.00
1869 Gold Dollar	25.00
1872 Gold Dollar	11.00
1875 Proof	100.00
1877 Proof	10.75

The sale consisted of about eighteen hundred lots and covered every branch of numismatics both in the United States and foreign series, containing ancient and modern foreign coins, in silver and copper, and an almost complete set of United States coins from all the mints. Also a fine collection of United tSates fractional currency. The total amount realized was about $7.000.00.

The catalogue, together with a neatly printed list of prices showing amounts realized for each lot of this sale, may be had for only 50c as long as the supply of catalogues lasts. Address your order to B. Max Mehl, Fort Worth, Texas.

Announcement

We have in preparation and shall publish in an early issue the first part of a series of papers, profusely illustrated, on the gold coins of Central and South America. The papers are prepared by Mr. Harry F. Williams of Chicago, who has given much time to the study of these coins and much labor to the preparation of the work, which will, we believe, when published, be the most complete of its kind.

Bill Introduced in the United States Congress, by Hon. William A. Ashbrook, to Incorporate the Numismatic Association American

[Ed. Note: The introduction of the bill in the United States Congress, by Hon. William A. Ashbrook, to incorporate the A. N. A., is undoubtedly the most important step yet taken in the interest of the advancement of the Association. While, of course, it is a matter of conjecture as to when the bill may pass, yet the fact that the Association is honored with the membership of a leading congressman who is sufficiently interested in the Association to draft and introduce the bill, will surely tend to increase the prestige and popularity of the Association. Much credit is also due Dr. Henderson, the president of the Association, who was very instrumental in having the bill introduced.]

Following is a copy of the bill as introduced in the Congress July 19, 1911.

[H. R. 12623.]

A BILL to incorporate the American Numismatic Association.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That H. O. Grandberg, of Oshkosh, Wisconsin; William A. Ashbrook, of Johnstown, Ohio; A. J. De Lagerberg, of Passaic, New Jersey; D. A. Williams, of Baltimore, Maryland; Howland Wood, of Brookline, Massachusetts, together with such persons as they may associate with themselves, and their successors, be, and they hereby are, constituted a body corporate of the District of Columbia.

Sec. 2. That the name of such body corporate shall be "American Numismatic Association," and by that name it shall have perpetual succession, save as hereinafter provided.

Sec. 3. That the objects of the said corporation shall be to advance the knowledge of numismatics along educational, historical, and scientific lines in all its various branches; to assist in bringing about better co-operation between all persons interested in the coinage, circulation, classification, collection, sales, exhibition, use, and preservation of all coins, bills, and medals; to acquire and disseminate trustworthy information bearing upon these topics; to promote greater popular interest in the science of numismatology, and for the particular purpose of bringing the numismatists of America into closer relations with one another through social intercourse, the interchange of ideas and discussions of mutual interest; to acquire, own, hold, and dispose of such real and personal property as may be necessary to properly carry into effect the purposes herein set forth, and to perform all such other acts and things as may be necessary to the full carrying into effect the said purposes, but such purposes do not include operations for pecuniary profit.

Sec. 4. That the principal office of said association shall be in the District of Columbia, but the association through its representatives shall have power to establish and maintain such other offices throughout America as the business of the association may require.

Sec. 5. That the control of such corporation shall be vested in a board of five governors, to be selected by the members of such association. The incorporators hereof shall act as the board of governors for the first year and until others are chosen in their stead.

Sec. 6. That the board of governors shall have the power to make such prudential by-laws and regulations as they may deem proper for the management

and control of the business and affairs of the association not inconsistent with this Act or the laws of the United States of America.

Sec. 7. That said association shall further have power to have and use a common seal and to alter and change the same at its pleasure; to sue and be sued in any court of the United States or other court of competent jurisdiction; to take or receive for the purposes of the association any gift, grant, or devise, and to accept and administer any trust for the purposes of the association.

Sec. 8. That this charter shall be subject to alteration, amendment, or repeal at the pleasure of the Congress of the United States.

Sec. 9. That this Act shall take effect immediately on its passage.

(Referred to the Committee on the District of Columbia.)

Denford Numismatic Society

"Well," said Evans, "I had an idea that I should have the meeting all to myself tonight, but it seems I was wrong, and I'm not sorry, as I enjoy our meetings more than any others I attend."

"Good old Joe," said Howard. "I'm sure we are all pleased to be here, but just why you should imagine you would be the only pebble on this numismatic beach tonight passes me. We are not perhaps the most pretentious society in the country, but I claim one thing to our credit—we have less quitters than any other numismatic society on the continent."

"How would you account for that?" asked Hill. "I have my own ideas on the subject, but I'd like to know yours."

"I'll tell you," said Howard "For one thing, we are all collectors, and collecting on intelligent lines, we know the series that we are mostly interested in and stick to them fairly well. None of us are commercially interested in coins, and we go slow—if we do not get our 'want list' filled this year we are willing to wait till next year. The more haste, the less speed, applies to coins as well as to other subjects."

"Our monthly meetings keep us in touch with each other, and a collector living, as far as numismatics are concerned, an isolated life, has a hard time of it. 'No man lives unto himself,' and this is especially true of the collector.

"We want today more local numismatic societies for the ordinary average collectors. Where would we in Denford be today but for ours? I doubt whether there is in the country a city of our size with more live collectors than we have, and we owe this to our own local society.."

"Baraboo, Wis., would run us pretty close," said Hill. "It must be a great town for collectors. They are certainly hustlers. I do not know whether they have a local society or not—if not, they should form one at once."

"It's quite easy to talk about forming a local society," said Blake, "but there's a certain amount of expense attached to this—rent of rooms, etc.: all this mounts up, and the start is the hardest thing."

"I fail to see it," continued Howard. "A few lines of space in a daily paper does not cost so very much, and all collectors could be invited to meet at the home of one of those interested in the work, and for a time, at least, the meetings might be held in the homes of different collectors This would be a start at least, and much might follow—at all events, men would be brought into touch with one another, and friendships formed that would last for life.

"One thing must be kept in mind—it is a great mistake to attempt to restrict the membership to only wealthy and advanced collectors; these men have their own circles and cliques, and it is better to leave them to such. It is the younger class of collectors who need encouragement and advice, and a local society, run on proper lines, is the best means by which this can be given.

"During the winter season in a young society the older members might take turns and act as hosts in their own homes, showing some particular series in their collections, and much might be learned by the informal discussions that would follow. None of us, I am sure, know it all, and the chief pleasure one can have in their collections is the pleasure obtained by showing their treasures to appreciative collecting friends. It is work like this that lessens the number of quitters."

"You must remember," said Jennings, "that there are several kinds of quitters, and that men cease to collect for different reasons. Some men really have not the time. Only recently a correspondent said, 'I have been so busy this spring and summer in my regular business that I have had to drop things numismatic almost entirely. It seems that year by year I have less time for the things I want to do, and may have to sidetrack coins to some time when I retire and again take it up when I get along in years. As I am still young this looks as if it would be a long way off. However, I am going to hold on as long as I can.'

"Now this is not an ordinary quitter, but a real live collector whose name is known all over the country—a real worker, who has done great things for numismatics.

"Others quit in disgust when they find they have paid six times the price they should have for their coins—purchased from a small local dealer who looked to the profits from his coins to pay his rent and feed his family. Some quit because they do not know another collector, or cannot obtain the advice and help they need. It is this class that the local society would save, and who with a little encouragement would in time become our best collectors, and in their turn advance the science of numismatics in our midst."

"One Cent"

One Cent.—It is almost impossible to attach any importance to one cent, but at the same time it is a very important coin. It will take a circular across the continent, and will make you madder than a hatter when you go to pay your fare on a trolley car and find that you have but a V and four cents. One cent is very small, but when it is added to the rate of interest you receive on a stock, it possess a stern, magnificent grandeur that carries you away like a strain of music. The penny, it seems, was made to put on church plates; and, although a man may say it amounts to nothing, he will strike matches and lift mats and crawl about on the floor of a car to find the one he has dropped. It is so small a coin that you have to take off your glove to take hold of it in your pocket, and yet so large when the baby swallows it that the chances of the baby's living are sometimes not worth a cent. Many a man has gone thirsty all day with four cents in his pocket. For the want of that one cent the four were as useless as eleven men on a jury who are held out against one. M. H. ALEXANDER.

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Dealers usually do not advertise these varieties much because supply has been small, but a fortunate purchase, "a find," was my chance and is your opportunity.

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Containing all the principal types of our dollar; Liberty head with flowing hair and small eagle (dated 1795); Liberty bust and heraldic eagle (type of the 1804) Flying eagle dollar (1836), about the most beautiful of our dollars; Trade dollar, Washington Lafayette dollar, and the last issue of the silver dollar, dated 1904, and in Uncirculated condition. The other dollars of the set are in very good to very fine condition.

Please remember that the set contains a very nice 1836 Flying eagle dollar, the auction record for which is—in proof—$25.00.

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EDITED AND PUBLISHED BY

B. Max Mehl

NUMISMATIST

FORT WORTH, TEXAS, U. S. A.

I SHALL be pleased to correspond with Numismatists who are thinking of selling their collection or any of their duplicates.

I do not urge anyone to dispose of his collection on the too strong impulse of the moment.

But if you are contemplating the sale of your collection, let me send you, without any obligations on your part, complete information as regards my terms and methods.

I buy collections or single rare coins for cash. Also a very liberal cash advance made on consignments.

B. MAX MEHL

Numismatist

FORT WORTH, ... TEXAS

Mehl's Numismatic Monthly

Vol. IV. FORT WORTH, TEXAS, SEPT.-OCT., 1911 No. 9-10

Newspaper and Magazine Clippings pertaining to Coins thankfully received. Contributions from those interested in the Science solicited and liberally paid for

The 1911 Convention of the American Numismatic Association

HELD AT CHICAGO, AUGUST 28, 29, 30, 31

The 1911 convention of the American Numismatic Association, the first convention held under the new rules, which eliminates the election of officers at the convention, was successfully held during the week of August 28.

The attendance was about as large and the interest as keen as that of any previous convention, and the exhibitions of coins—an important and interesting feature of all conventions—was very elaborate and probably the largest of any of our previous convention exhibits, and from the large crowd of visitors who were constantly crowding the exhibition room it is evident that the exhibition aroused a great deal of interest among the general public.

The headquarters of the convention was at the LaSalle Hotel. All the business sessions and exhibits were held at the Chicago Art Institute.

The morning of the first day of the convention, Monday, August 28, was given over to the registration of members and the distribution of the official convention badges, in the East Room of the Hotel LaSalle. The Board of Governors held their annual meeting. And the installation of exhibits by members in the galleries at the Art Institute.

The first business session was held on the afternoon of Monday, August 28, in the Club Room of the Art Institute.

Mr. F. Elmo Simpson, Vice President of the Chicago Numismatic Society, called the meeting to order and delivered the welcoming address in behalf of the Chicago Numismatic Society.

Mr. French, director of the Art Institute, welcomed the Association in behalf of the city of Chicago. Mr. French made very interesting remarks regardnig the Art Institute and art in coins in general.

President Henderson responded heartily to the welcoming addresses and redevelopment of the artistic qualities of our coins.

President Henderson responded heartily to the welcoming address, and reviewed at length the history and progress of the American Numismatic Association, from its founding in 1891 down to its present prosperous state. He discussed the various stages and important progress it has made. It is pleasing to note that much stress was laid on the fact of interesting the youth of the country in the science of numismastics; surely not only the success of the Association but the purpose for which it was founded and for its future success we must look to the young collectors.

Following the Prseident's address, several communications from absent officers and members were read by the Secretary, after which the meeting was adjournerd until 10 o'clock Tuesday morning.

On Monday evening at 8 o'clock the ladies of the convention tendered a reception to the Association members in the Red Room of the LaSalle Hotel. The pleasures of the evening were enhanced by the abundant supply oyf refreshments, good music, and still better, stories told by the sage of Swansea and Dr. French of Rochester.

Tuesday, August 29: The President called the convention to order at 11 a. m. Reports of various officers and committees were received.

The Credentials Committee reported that 104 proxies were held by members present.

The Secretry's report showed quite a decrease in the number of active members since the New York convention. The total number of active members is 552, 60 members having been admitted from January 1, 1911, to September 25. The number of active members reported at the 1910 convention in New York was 608. During this year the total loss of membership was 162, 12 of which were by death and 154 by resignation and by non-payment of dues.

The Treasurer reported a balance of $175.00—a very healthy condition indeed in comparison to previous years. The report of the business manager of the official organ was another pleasant surprise to the members. It reported a balance of over $500.00 on hand.

A committee was appointed and given the power to act for the purpose of securing an official button and convention badge.

Reports were received and accepted from the Committee on Revision of the Constitution and the Committee on Incorporation.

Mr. H. O. Granberg, chairman of Board of Governors, read his report for the fiscal year, in which he discussed at length the satisfactory state of the "Numsimatist," its purchase by Mr. Wilson and its presentation to the Association. Mr. Granberg also recommended that arrangements should be made to continue the same editors, business manager and Board of Governors.

The official convention photograph was taken at 12 o'clock on the steps of the Art Institute.

The afternoon session was devoted to the nomination of officers for the ensuing year. In compliance to the new by-laws the election of officers is to take place by mail ballot only.

The following are the nominations made at the convention:

For President—Judson Brenner, Dekalb, Ill.

For First Vice-President—B. H. Saxton, Davenport, Iowa.

For Second Vice-President—R. W. McLachlan, Montreal, Canada.

For General Secretary—Waldo C. Moore, Lewisburg, Ohio.

For Treasurer—N. E. Converse, Worcester, Mass.

For Librarian—Ludger Gravel, Montreal, Canada.

For Chairman Board of Governors—H. O. Granberg, Oshkosh, Wis.

For Members Board of Governors—William A. Ashbrook, Johnstown, Ohio; J. DeLagerberg, Passaic, New Jersey; A. C. Geis, Pittsburg, Pennsylvania; D. A. Williams, Baltimore, Maryland; Howland Wood, Brookline, Massachusetts; Henry Chapman, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; J. M. Henderson, Columbus, Ohio.

After the nominations were closed, Mr. R. W. McLachlan of Montreal read a paper, "Fifty Years a Coin Collecting" (published in full in the Official Organ).

Meeting adjourned until Thursday morning, August 31.

Wednesday, August 30, was given over to sight-seeing. In the afternoon at 2 o'clock a sight-seeing automobile trip was given the members, the trip starting from the Hotel LaSalle, taking in many of the principal business and residence thoroughfares and Lincoln Park.

In the evening the convention auction sale was held in the East Room of

CONVENTION GROUP OF THE 1911 AMERICAN NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION.
In Front of Chicago Art Institute. August 29, 1911.

Hotel LaSalle. The attendance was very large at the sale, as many of the visiting members were afforded the first opportunity of attending a coin auction sale.

Thursday, August 31: Convention called to order by President at 11 o'clock.

Report of Mr. W. C. Moore, chairman of the Biographical Album Committee, was read and accepted.

The Resolutions Committee and their report offered resolutions of thanks to Messrs. Saxton, Duffield and Wood for their excellent services in issuing the Association Year Book of 1910.

A resolution extending the thanks of the Association to His Majesty, Victor Emanuel III, King of Italy, for his gift to the Association of the first volume of his "Corpus Nummorum Italicorum."

A resolution of thanks to Mr. W. W. C. Wilson for his generous gift to the Association of the "Numismatist."

The committee also offered a resolution, which was unanimously carried, making Charles Morris of Chicago an honorary member of the Association.

The matter of a place for the next convention then came up; the only invitation received was from the Chamber of Commerce of Rochester, N. Y. The matter of selecting a place for the next convention was left for the Board of Governors to decide. The President suggested that immediate preparation should be made for holding the 1915 convention in San Francisco during the progress of the Panama Exposition.

The convention was then declared adjourned.

Thursday evening at 6 o'clock a banquet was tendered to the members by the Chicago Numismatic Society in the Red Room of Hotel LaSalle, Mr. Judson Brenner acting as toastmaster. Many interesting remarks were made by several of the members. The affair was declared a decided success and many words of praise were heard of the excellent manner in which the members of the Chicago Numismatic Society entertained the convention.

(For a detailed stenographic report of the convention, see the "Numismatist.")

The Convention Attendance

The attendance was comprised of all classes of numismatists—collectors interested in every branch of the numismatic science, as was evidenced by the numerous discussions on various subjects and the bits of information given and exchanged wherever the members chanced to meet. And all in all it was a "bunch" of real good social fellows who enjoy their coins and enjoy meeting with others who are interested in the same hobby. And the recollections of the association with them is a pleasant recollection of a very pleasant and successful convention.

The following members registered with the Secretary: Their names are given in order of their registration:

G. L. Tilden, Worcester, Mass.
Wm. C. Stone, Sprinfield, Mass.
Ben G. Green, Chicago.
Theo E. Leon, Chicago.
P. M. Wolsieffer, Chicago.
Geo. J. Schwartz, Wooster, Ohio.
J. H. Ripstra, Chicago.
M. Marcuson, Cleveland, Ohio.
H. O. Garnberg, Oshkosh, Wis.
Henry Ades Fowler, Chicago.
Elmer S. Sears, Swansea, Mass.
W. F. Dunham, Chicago.
Chas. Morris, Chicago.
Jos. Moosa, Shanghai, China.
B. Max Mehl, Fort Worth, Tex.
L. T. Brodstone, Superior, Neb.
Frank Bescher, Kansas City, Mo.
F. J. Loer, Chicago.
Dr. Geo. P. French, Rochester, N. Y.
Howard R. Newcomb, Detroit, Mich.
W. G. Whittaker, Cleveland, Ohio.
A. T. McKay, Bay City, Mich.

CONVENTION BANQUET TENDERED TO THE ASSOCIATION BY THE CHICAGO NUMISMATIC SOCIETY,
In the Red Room, Hotel LaSalle, August 31, 1911.

Dr. J. M. Henderson, Columbus, O.
Mrs. J. M. Henderson, Columbus, O.
J. C. Mitchelson, Tariffville, Conn.
B. H. Saxton, Davenport, Iowa.
G. C. Arnold, Providence, R. I.
Eames McVeagh, Chicago.
Michael P. Carey, Chicago.
Joseph Ford, Augusta, Mont.
Waldo C. Moore, Lewisburg, Ohio.
Judson Brenner, DeKalk, Ill.
Edgar H. Adams, Brooklyn, N. Y.
Edward Michael, Chicago.
Fred Michael, Chicago.
Henry Chapman, Philadelphia, Pa.
R. E. Davis, Aurora, Ill.
C. E. Briggs, Lisbon, Iowa.
Robert E. Whittsett, Logansport, Ind.
J. A. Lewis, Chicago.
John V. Yegge, DeWitt, Iowa.
H. T. Wilson, Chicago.
J. T. Kelley, Maywood, Ill.
Mitchell Baker, Chicago.
W. G. Cury, Baraboo, Wis.
H. H. Haylett, Baraboo, Wis.
F. Elmo Simpson, Chicago.
R. W. McLachlan, Montreal, Canada.

THE CONVENTION EXHIBITS

By Geo. C. Arnold, a restrike 1804 dollar, stella, California octagon $50.00 gold piece, and a rare 1823 quarter-dollar.

By Judson Brenner, a magnificent collection of United States pattern coins, principally of the 1, 2, 3, 5 cent pieces, probably the largest collection of its kind in the world. A complete set of the Trade Dollars, including the exceedingly rare 1884 and 1885. Complete set of the Confederate Cents, including the one in gold, also the original dies for these cents.

By Mitchell Baker, a collection of 287 varieties of United States fractional currency notes, including all the great rarities with autograph signatuers.

By Henry Chapman, a large and valuable collection of ancient gold and silver coins. Rare United States Colonial and rare dates of United States cents and half-cents.

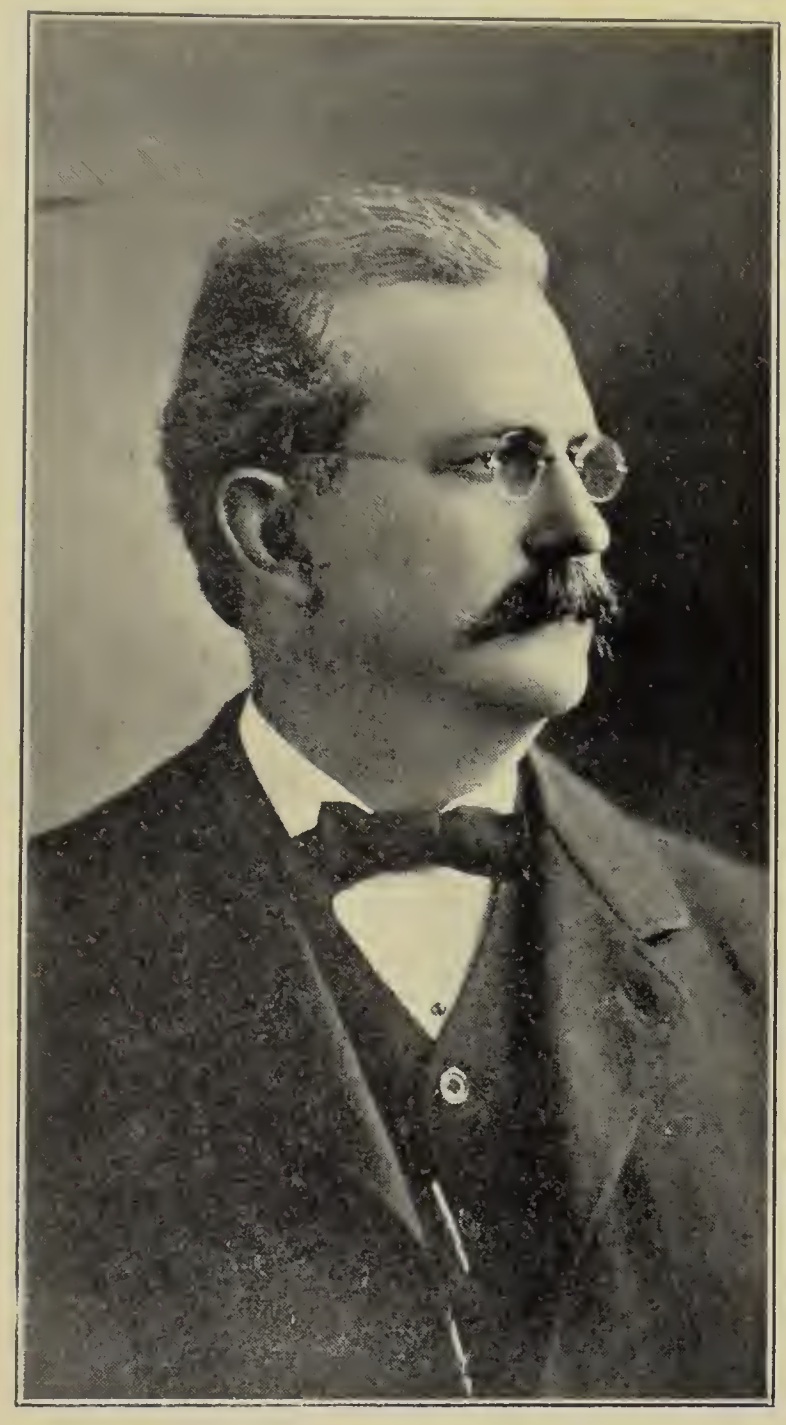
By Hudson Chapman, a collection of medals in all metals, some very historical and rare.

By W. F. Dunham, his entire collection of United States coins.' Mr. Dunham's exhibit attracted more attention than any of the other exhibits, as his collection was the only complete representation of the United States coinage in the exhibition. This grand collection consists of about every coin issued by the United States of the Philadelphia mint from the half-cents to the $20.00 gold piece from 1792 to 1911. It contained the famous "Dexter" 1804 dollar, also the 1822 Half Eagle, for which Mr. Dunham paid $2,165.00, but which is now valued by the owner at several times its cost. The 1802 half dime, 1875 $3.00 gold, and in fact nearly every coin in this grand collection is in excellent state of preservation.

By Dr. Geo. P. French, a collection of large United States cents, comprising 440 varieties, and very likely the finest collection of its kind in existence, as nearly every coin in this collestion is in either uncirlulated or proof condition. Space forbids to mention any of the gems of the collection; for it would be a difficult matter to select the gems. Dr. French values the collection at $15,000.00.

By Ben G. Green, a complete collection of encased postage stamps from the 1c to 90c, 84 different varieties in all.

By H. O. Granberg, some of the great rarities of his immense collection. A silver Continental Dollar 1776, of which but two specimens are known. Finest known 1796 half-dollar. Quarter-dollars of 1823 and 1827. The only known 1853 half-dollar without rays and arrows. Two of the 1804 dollars. 1802 half-dimes and 1894 dime "S" mint, also the largest coin the world, an 8 daler piece of the copper plate money of Sweden; this coin measures about



JUDSON BRENNER, of DE KALB, ILL.,
Our Next President of the American Numismatic Association.

14x28 inches and weighs over thirty pounds. Mr. Granberg sent an agent from this country to Sweden for the special purpose of securing this gigantic coin.

By John A. Lewis, United States paper money of the scarce and old varieties, also fractional currency and a nice lot of U. S. gold.

By B. Max Mehl, coins from the Chas. W. Cowell collecion, including the Kellogg & Co. $50.00 gold piece, Wass, Molitor & Co. $50.00, Norris, Griggs & Norris $5.00 milled edge. North Carolina and Georgia gold. Set of the rare Lesher dollars and early U. S. quarter-eagles in beautiful state of preservation.

By Elmer S. Sears, the exceedingly rare 1815 half-eagle, complete set of the twenty-cent pieces, probably not more than four or five complete sets known. Other rare half-eagles and a magnificent specimen of the Bechtler Rutherford $2.50 gold piece with 20 C, 75 G.

By J. H. Ripstra, samples of his medallic productions and other medals, including some rare Lincolns.

By A. H. Ramsden, an extensive collection of Chinese coins in all the odd shapes; the Knife, Razor, Fork, Hat Money, Boat Money, etc.

The St. Gaudens Medal Restored

In the New York State Library, near the loan desk, for some time had hung the gold medal designed by St. Gaudens in honor of the inauguration of President Roosevelt. It was so hung that both sides of the medal could be seen. This medal was presented to the State Library by President Roosevelt, and his letter of presentation was framed and hung near the medal. At the time of the fire in the capitol, March 29, 1911, which destroyed so many valuable documents, rare records and relics, the letter of presentation was destroyed, and the frame containing the medal was burned, allowing it to drop to the floor, where it was covered with rubbish.

When the Department of Education began to take inventory of what was lost, the St. Gaudens medal was looked for near the place it had hung, but no trace of it could be found. It was then that the report of the loss was made, which report was published in this monthly, May and June number. The further history of the medal may be of interest to the readers of the magazine.

About a week after the fire the Commissioner of Education, Dr. Draper, received word that a young lady had seen the missing medal—that a soldier had shown it to her. A careful investigation revealed the fact that one of the members of the company of soldiers which were detailed to guard the ruins after the fire had picked up the medal and presumably intended to keep it, but showed it to a young lady who could not keep the secret, and word came to the proper ears and the medal was very quickly delivered to the authorities upon a demand for the same.

It is now in the possession of the Department of Education and will be carefully kept until the new Educational Building is ready to receive what was left of the old State Library. GEORGE H. RYMERS.

Albany, N. Y., June 19, 1911.

WALDO C. MOORE, of LEWISBURG, OHIO,
Next General Secretary of the American Numismatic Association.

Well Known Numismatist Passes Away

JOSEPH C. MITCHELSON OF TARIFFVILLE, CONN., ONE OF THE OLDEST AND BEST KNOWN COLLECTORS IN THE COUNTRY DIED ON SEPTEMBER 25.

The editor of the Numismatic Monthly has just received word from Rud. Kohler, District Secretary of the A. N. A. for New York, to the effect that Joseph C. Mitchelson died on Sept. 25. The news will be received with great surprise and deep regret by all numismatists who knew Mr. Mitchelson. He was known by all the active collectors of this country and Europe and was present at all the conventions of the American Numismatic Association. He was in Chicago to the last convention, and appeared as jovial and in as good health as usual.

Mr. Kohler's communication does not give any particulars or details.

New Chinese Coins

Written for MEHL'S NUMISMATIC MONTHLY.

By J. ARMSTRONG FOSTER, F. R. N. S.

An important step toward the long-delayed fulfillment of China's promise to establish a uniform national coinage was taken on May 24, 1910, when an Imperial decree was issued, fixing the dollar or yuan as the unit of Chinese currency throughout the Empire, "of which the standard shall temporarily be silver." The new dollar is to be of 7 mace 2 candareens weight, equal to 416 grains troy—i. e., the same as the Mexican dollar with subsidiary coins in silver of 50c, 25c and 10c, in nickel of 5c, 2c and 1c, and in copper of 5 and 1 cash. The Ministry of Finance is to supervise the issue of the new coinage, which will be minted at the Imperial mint in Tientsin, and at branch mints in Hankow, Chengtu and Mukden, all other provincial mints being closed. For various reasons chiefly owing to an inadequate reserve bullion, the new coinage has not yet been put in circulation; but this difficulty having been overcome by the recent conclusion (on April 21, 1911), of a loan of £10,000,000, with certain international groups, consisting of America, British, German and French bankers, the major portion of the government have pledged themselves to devote to establishing the new coinage on a sound financial basis, it is hoped that this all-important reform is at last within measurable distance of accomplishment.

The Government will have a hard task in overcoming the ancient and powerful interests vested in the lucrative business of money-changing and tax-collecting, but the thorough manner in which they have enforced the regulations for the suppression of opium smoking augurs well for the success of currency reform. It may be hoped that the Chinese authorities will at the same time give their serious attention to the unregulated issue of notes by native banks. The regulations issued two years ago for the control of these institutions were not only quite inadequate in themselves, but have to a great extent remained a dead letter, as was shown by the revelations that followed on the failure of certain prominent native banks in Shanghai and other places last summer.

The Cowell Collection of Rare Coins to be Sold at Auction

Mr. Chas. W. Cowell of Denver, Colo., placed his entire collection of United States and Pioneer coins with B. Max Mehl, Fort Worth, Texas, to be sold at auction.

Mr. Cowell is one of the oldest numismatists in the country, both in point of years and active interest in numismatics, having spent upward of forty years in the formation of his magnificent collection.

Being particularly interested in the West, Mr. Cowell, of course, possesses a natural inclination toward the interesting Pioneer coins, which are so historical of the West. And as a consequence, his collection is replete with great rarities, both of the Pioneer and the United States series of coins.

EXTENT OF THE COLLECTION

The collection of United States gold coins is most complete of all mints with many of the greatest rarities.

The GOLD DOLLARS include nearly all dates of all mints; the 1863, 1864, 1865, etc., many of the rare S, D and C mints.

QUARTER-EAGLES, nearly a complete collection, from 1796 to 1910, nearly two hundred specimens; the 1796, 1797, 1802, 1821, 1826 to 1833, 1875 and the 1855, 1857, 1859 D mint.. The 1855 D is the first specimen to be offered at auction.

THREE DOLLAR GOLD PIECES, lack only two dates to be complete, but includes the 1873 of which only 25 specimens are reported to have been coined; the 1877 and the 1854 D, one of the finest known.

A PROOF FOUR DOLLAR GOLD PIECE.

HALF-EAGLES, 173 varieties, 1795 to 1910. Many of the rarities including one of the three or four known specimens of the 1834 with crossed 4.

EAGLES, 1795 to 1910. All mints. Besides the early dates, it contains many rarities of the latter dates and mint marks; the 1864, 1859, 1873, 1876, 1907 St. Gaudens wire edge, etc. About 150 specimens in all. A complete set of the Carson City mint.

DOUBLE-EAGLES, 24 varieties. Including brilliant proofs of the very rare 1883, 1884 and 1891.

THE PIONEER GOLD COINS.

CALIFORNIA. Five $50.00 gold pieces, with fine specimens of the exceedingly rare Kellogg & Co., and Wass, Molitor & Co. round "slugs." A semi-proof Norris, Griggs & Norris $5.00, milled edge. Fine set of the Moffatts $5.00 to $20.00. Miners Bank $10.00. The rare Assay Office $10.00 to $50.00. Varieties of Kellog & Co. $20.00 and the largest collection of California gold dollars, halves and quarter-dollars ever offered, including of course, all the great rarities. And a semi-proof 1848 $2.50 with CAL., being the first coin struck from California gold.

The CAROLINA COINS are a beautiful set with an uncirculated North Carolina $2.50 Rutherford, 20C. The $5.00 A. Bechtler 128 G 22 C, and also the variety with 141 G 20 C.

A GEORGIA $2.50 gold piece 64 G 22 C.

COLORADO. The first complete set ever offered of the Clark, Gruber &

Co. coins, including the two $20.00 pieces, one with view of peak. Also a set of the rare Lesher dollars.

UTAH. A fine set of the rare and interesting coins of the Mormons, including one of the best known specimens of the $2.50 piece.

The UNITED STATES SILVER AND COPPER COINS form a very fine collection, as nearly every coins is in choice state of preservation.

The DOLLARS include the 1836 and 1858 with the early dates in fine condition and all later dates down to 1904 in extremely fine to proof.

The HALF-DOLLARS include the 1794, 1801, 1802, 1836 milled edge, etc., down to 1910.

The QUARTER-DOLLARS; a very choice 1796, 1804 and on down to 1910 with nearly all dates in extremely fine to proof condition.

Dimes and Half-Dimes from 1794 to 1910 with many of the rare early dates.

The collection of LARGE COPPER CENTS contains all the principal types of the 1793; large variety of 1794, nice 1799, 1804 and down to 1857.

The Half-Cents include the 1793 and a proof 1852, besides many of the early dates in very choice condition.

This sale also contains a collection of United States FRACTIONAL CURRENCY, which is one of the largest and finest collections ever offered at auction. Every note in the collection is uncirculated, besides the rare Red Backs, Autographs, etc., it contains a set of nine pairs of the Grant & Sherman 15c notes, and a collection of Specimen or "Pattern" notes with the very wide margins. Also an absolutely perfect 25c Fessenden with solid bronze discs, and a set of the exertmely rare "Dr. Gwynn" notes.

There is also a fair lot of foreign gold, silver and copper coins, all scarce pieces, and an interesting collection of ancient Greek and Roman coins in gold, silver and bronze.

In all, there are over seventeen hnudred lots, and as can readily be seen, it is one of the most important sales of the season, and contains coins that will appeal to every numismatist.

THE SALE WILL TAKE PLACE ON SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 11.

The catalogues are now ready and those who have not yet received a copy will be promptly supplied with one if they will kindly drop a postal to B. Max Mehl, Fort Worth, Texas.

After the sale, a list, showing amounts realized for each lot of this sale, containing over seventeen hundred lots and aggregating in value of upward of ten thousand dollars, will be supplied for only fifty cents. Orders for the lists are now being booked.

The cataloguer will cheerfully send any special information that may be desired regarding any lot. Also numismatists desiring to examine any of the coins may have them forwarded for examination, but no coins will be sent out for inspection later than November 1.

AN APOLOGY.

An apology is due and herewith tendered to all my subscribers for my delay in issuing this number of the Numismatic Monthly. The delay is partly due to a misunderstanding in regard to getting a detailed report of the A. N. A. convention, and also to my desire and haste to issue the catalogue for the Cowell collection. I fully realize that these are "very light" excuses, but I trust that in view of my usual promptness, I will be forgiven for this delay, and shall endeavor to atone for it by issuing the future numbers promptly

B. MAX MEHL.

A Partial List of the Gold Coinage

OF

MEXICO, CENTRAL AMERICA AND SOUTH AMERICA, STRUCK BY OR FOR THE SEVERAL COUNTRIES THEREOF FROM THE DATE OF THEIR INDEPENDENCE.

Compiled by HARRY F. WILLIAMS

FROM THE

Catalogues of the Collections of Fonrobert, Mehli, Ulex and Salbach, From Catalogues of Other Collections, and From Specimens in the Collection of the Compiler.

Foreword

In attempting to make a type collection of the gold coinage of Brazil and of the Spanish Americas, difficulties presented themselves to the compiler of this list, at the outset.

No work in English seemed to be an authority. Examples shown in one were lacking in others. Specimens obtained were not mentioned at all. European catalogues of sales showed yet others not mentioned in works printed in the English language. Sales satalogues would show the date but not the type, and to buy every denomination of every date offered for sale would be impossible for a modest purse when types, not dates, were desired.

To partly surmount these difficulties, this list was compiled from all sources of information at present available to the compiler. No claim is made that the same is complete, either as to types, denomination or years of issue.

The illustrated catalogue of the Fonrobert collection and the plate catalogues of the Ulex and Salbach collections afforded most information as to the Spanish-American coinage, while Mehli's works are most comprehensive as to the Brazilian, other catalogues of sales and numismatic works in the Chicago libraries have afforded information.

The list shows the authority, after the date, of each denomination of each type, preference being given to Mehli and to Fonrobert when others show the same example that they do. Gold medals were not shown, but proclamation and commemorative pieces are shown when there is reason to believe they passed for money. Patterns and Essais are included if they have been struck in gold. Quite a number of the late issues for lack of definite descriptions are omitted.

Hoping that the list, notwithstanding its deficiencies, may be of some service to those interested in this branch of numismatics, the compiler offers it to the readers of Mehl's Numismatic Monthly.

HARRY F. WILLIAMS.

Chicago, June 26, 1911.

ARGENTINE

(a) Provinces of Rio de la Plata. 1810-1835.
(b) Republic of the Argentine Confederation. 1835-1852.
(c) Republic of Argentine.

Scudo . . . . . "PROVINCIAS DEL RIO DE LA PLATA" * Sun with 16 large and 16 smaller rays. Rev., "EN UNION Y LIBERTAD RA." The oval coat of arms in front of 4 crossed flags. Below, 2 crossed cannon. Underneath, a drum. In field, on either side of symbols, "I—S." Below on border, the date.

Doblado—2 Scudos. . . . Similar, except "2—S."

Scudo	Doblado
1813 Ulex 3761	1824 Fon. 10008

Doblado . . . . . "PROVINCIA DEL RIO DE LA PLATA *" Sun with 32 (equal sized) rays. Rev., similar to 1824 Doblado.

Onza . . . . . Obv., similar to Doblado. Rev., EN UNION Y LIBERTAD. RA. P. 8S. Symbols similar to 1824 Doblado. Date, below on border.

Media Onza . . . . . Similar to Doblado, except "4—S."

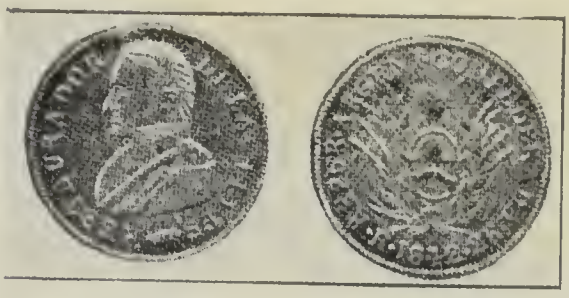
Doblado
1825 Fon. 10012
1826 A. M. Smith

Media Onza
1826 A. M. Smith

Onza
1826 Williams
1830 Dye
1831 Fon. 10021
1834 A. M. Smith

Onza . . . . . "* REPUB. ARGENT.—CONFEDERADA *". Bust in uniform (1). Underneath, "ROSAS." Rev., "POR LA LIGA LITORAL SERA FELIZ. R. 8S." A mountain with sea in front. Below, 2 flags, 2 muskets and 2 cannons, crossed. Below them, a pyramid of 3 cannon balls. Date underneath, on border.

Onza
1836 Fon. 10025



Doblado .....“RESTAURADOR—DE LAS LEYES.” Bust in uniform (l). Underneath, “ROSAS.” Rev., “REPUB. ARGENT. CONFEDERADA.” A radiant sun over oval coat of arms in front of 4 flags, 2 muskets and 4 lances, crossed. Underneath, on border, “R (date) 2E.”

Onza .....Obv., similar. Rev., similar except after Confederada, “R. 8E.” Instead of value and mintmaster's initial being on either side of date, latter is alone on lower border.

Onza	Doblado
1842 Ulex 3773	1842 Fron. 10030

Onza .....“ETERNO LOOR AL RESTAURADOR ROSAS” *” Before, 2 cannon and 4 flags crossed, the oval coat of arms. Above, the Radiant Sun. Rev., REPUB. ARGENTINA CONFEDERADA. R. 8S. A mountain, with sea in front. Below, 2 flags, 2 muskets and 2 cannon, crossed. Below, in exergue, pyramid of 3 cannon balls. On lower border, date.

1840 A. M. Smith

Doblado .....“ETERNO LOOR AL RESTAURADOR ROSAS.” On 2 flags, mountains with 4 men. Above, the Radiant Sun. On either side, “2—E.” Rev., “REPUB. ARGENT. CONFEDARADA.” Oval coat of arms in front of 4 flags, 2 cannon and 2 muskets, crossed. Below, on border, “R. 1843. B.”

Doblado

1843 Fon. 10033

Onza . . . . . "ETERNO LOOR AL RESTAURADOR ROSAS" * A Norman shield divided in 2 parts. In upper part, a mountain. In upper corners, 2 ribbons; on left, "G de"; on right, "G. R." In lower part of shield are a flag and a musket crossed. Shield is surrounded by laurel branches. Rev., "REPUB. ARGENT. CONFEDERADA." A large star surmounts the oval coat of arms, which is in front of flags, muskets, etc., crossed. In lower field, "8—E." On lower border, the date.

Onza
1845 Salbach. 2324

Argentino—5 Pesos...."* LIBERTAD *" on border. Above, a head of Liberty with flowing hair and Phrygian Cap (r.). On border, "5 PESOS * UN ARGENTINO * 9 DOS FINO." In lower field (r.), "OUDINE." Rev., "* REPUBLICA ARGENTINA *". A radiant sun surmounts the oval coat of arms, which is in front of 14 flags and 2 cannon, crossed. Below on border, the date.

5 Pesos
1881 Ulex 3797
1884 Ulex 3803
1886 Williams

BOLIVIA

(Republica Boliviana)

1825

Mint, Potosi.

Scudo (2 Pesos)....."LIBRE POR LA—CONSTITUCION." Bust of Bolivar in uniform (r.); underneath on border, "BOLIVAR." Rev., Superscription "REPUBLICA BOLIVIANA." Sun rising behind Mt. Potosi; in foreground a llama (l.) and sheaf (r.); below, curved, * * * * * *. Below on border, "T I S (date) L. M."

Cuarta de Onza.....Similar to Scudo, except "2 S."

Onza . . . . . Similar to Scudo, except "8 S."

Scudo

1832 Ulex 3470
1834 Fon. 9505
1833 Ulex 3471
1835 Fon. 9510
1839 Salbach 1399
1838 Fon. 9520

Cuarta de Onza

1834 Fon. 9505
1835 Salbach 1394

Onza

1839 Salbach 1398
1840 Salbach 1402

Scudo de Potosi. . . . . "REPUBLICA BOLIVIANA." A soaring Fame, holding in right hand an open book, inscribed on right page "LEY | FUN | DA"; on left, "MEN | TAL." She is blowing a trumpet held in left hand. On left is "LIBER | TAD." Below on border, a horn of plenty with flowers. Rev., "POTOSI A LA CONSTITUCION DEL ANO 1839." Cocoa Palms. (under President José Miguel de Velasco.) Struck by City of Potosi to celebrate granting of constitution.

1839 Fon. 9522

Medio Scudo . . . . . "LIBRE POR LA—CONSTITUCION." Laureated head of Bolivar (r); underneath on border, "BOLIVAR." Rev., "REPUBLICA BOLIVIANA." The Sun rising above the Peak of Potosi. At left, a llama; at right, a sheaf of grain. Under peak (curved), * * * * * *. On lower border, "T ½ (date) L. R."

Scudo . . . . . Similar, except "T 1 S. (date) L. R."

Medio Onza . . . . . Similar, except "4 S."

Onza . . . . . Similar, except "8 S." and mmz.

Medio Scudo

1841 Ulex 3478
1842 Fon. 9532
1843 Salbach 1411
1844 Salbach 1411
1845 Salbach 1411
1846 Fon. 9544
1847 Fon. 9546

Scudo

1842 Fon. 9531

Medio Onza

1841 Salbach 1405

Onza

1847 Salbach 1412
1831 Snowden (Plate XXIV)

Scudo de Potosi . . . . . "A LAS VIRTUDES DE LA SENORA *" Two doves. Under them, (curved), "POTOSI." Rev., "DONA MERCEDES COLL DE BALLIVIAN." A fire burning on altar.

Struck by City of Potosi in (1847) in honor of wife of Ballivian, President 1847-48.

(1847) Fon. 9462

Medio Scudo . . . . . "LIBRE POR LA—CONSTITUCION." Laureated head of Bolivar (r.); on base of neck, "REPUBLICA BOLIVAR." Sun rising over Mount Potosi; Llama (l.); sheaf of grain (r.) Below (curved), * * * * Below on border, "T ½ (date) F. P."

Scudo . . . . . Similar, except "1 S."

Onza . . . . . Similar, except "8 S."

Medio Scudo
1852 Ulex 3489
1853 Fon. 9586
1855 Fon. 9610 (mmz. M. J.)
1858 Fon. 9627 (mmz. F. J.)

Scudo
1853 Salbach 1424
1856 Fon. 9615 (mmz. J.)

Onza
1853 Salbach 1423

Scudo . . . . . "M. Y. BELZU PRESIDENTE CONSTITUCIONAL." The head of Belzu (l.) above clouds, which are above laurel branches. Below on border, "POTOSI 1854." Rev., "LA PATRIA AL YLUSTRE DEFENSOR D SU INDEPENDENCIA." A woman (standing) holds child in right arm and has a child on either side. A horn of plenty on ground.

Media Scudo . . . . . Obv. similar, except "PRESID." and "T 1854." Rev., similar, except "LA PATRIA AL Y DEFENSOR DE SU INDEPA".

Issued by City of Potosi.

Scudo
1854 Fon. 9590

Medio Scudo
1854 Fon. 9591

Medio Escudo . . . . . "REPUBLICA—BOLIVIANA." A condor (facing), with outstretched wings, is perched on the oval coat of arms, which is in front of 6 flags, 4 muskets and 2 cannons, all crossed. A battle axe protrudes from mouth of 1 cannon (r.). Below on border (curved), * * * * * * * * * *. Rev., "LA UNION ES LA FUERZA." Within a wreath of laurel and oak leaves, "½ | ESCUDO | 25 Gs. | 9D. FINO." On lower border, "T—1868—F. E."

(1 Boviliano)

Escudo . . . . . Obv. similar. Rev. similar, except "1 | ESCUDO 50 Gs. | 9 Ds. FINO."

(2 Bolivianos)

Onza . . . . . Obv. similar. Rev. similar, except "1 | ONZA | 500 Gs. 9 Ds. FINO." Edge, in raised letters, "BOLIVIA LIBRE E INDEPENIENTE 1825."

(20 Bolivianos)

Medio Escudo
1868 Ulex 3516

Escudo
1868 Ulex 3516

Onza
1868 Fon. 9715. (Pattern in silver.)

Scudo . . . . . "GRATITUD DE LOS EMPLEADOS DE SUCRE." A flying dove, holding olive branch in beak. Rev., "* AL ILUSTRE VENCEDOR DE INGAVI." A column, with laurel branches on either side. Issued by officials of City of Sucre in honor of Ballivian, to commemorate the battle of YNGAVI, Nov. 18, 1841.

(1841) Fon. 9785

Medio Onza . . . . . "LOS EMPLEADOS DE POTOSI." Seated Liberty, holding child in lap, protects boy within left arm. An oval shield at her side, inscribed "REPUBLICA BOLIVIANO *" Below, on border, "AL PRESIDENTE. M. Y. BELZU." Rev., "LA PROVIDENCIA PERSIGUE EL CRIMEN." From a cloud, an arm with flaming sword is driving a man in classic garb over cliff, into sea. The man, who holds torch and a pair of serpents, averts his face. On lower border, "1852." Issued by officials of Potosi in honor of Belzu.

1852 Fon. 9563. Weight 13.6 Gr.

Double Scudo . . . . . "POTOSI TRASMITE A LA POSTERIDAD." An Indian with head-dress and loin apron of feathers, quiver on back, blowing a trumpet, holds in left hand a laurel branch. Rev., "LA GLORIA DEL VENCEDOR D EINGAVI." Between a laurel and a palm branch, a column surmounted by a flag. Issued by City of Potosi to commemorate the battle of Yngari (Nov. 18, 1841). Fonrobert (9786) describes similar piece in silver, which he states was struck Dec. 23, 1847.

(1841) Salbach 1596. Weight 6.6 Gr.

Scudo . . . . . "GRATITUD DEL DEPARTAMENTO DE POTOSI." Sun rising over chain of mountains, with battlefield in foreground. Underneath (curved), "EN 18. D. N." Rev., "AL DEFENSOR D LA INDEPENDENCIA NACIL". A flag surmounted monument on a base. Underneath (curved), "D 1841." Issued by the Department of Potosi in honor of Ballivian.

(1841) Fon. 9796. Weight, 3.40 Gr.

Scudo . . . . . "POTOSI A LA REGENERACION DE BOLIVIA." A Phoenix rising from flames. Rev., "PATRIA LEY LIBERTAD." A winged male figure, facing r., holds spear in right hand, the end resting on a slain lion at his feet. Below, on border, "EN FEBRERO 9 D 1839." Issued by City of Potosi to commemorate the end of the Peru-Bolivian Confederation in 1839 and the new constitution given under President de Velasco.

1839 Williams. Weight, 3.40 Gr.

Scudo . . . . . "VIVA EL PRESIDENTE MELGAREJO." whose head faces left. Rev., "POTOSI A S. E."; in field, 28 | DE MARZO | DE | 1869." On lower border, "EN SU NATALICIO." (Scudo or Essai in gold of 1 Real is description of Salbach in the catalogue of his collection.)

1869 Salbach 1503

(To be Continued.)

COMMUNICATIONS

ANENT A LITERARY CABINET

Halifax, Yorks, England, Aug. 18, 1911.

Mr. B. Max Mehl.

Dear Sir: You invite comments on the paper appearing in the July-August issue of the "Numismatic Monthly," entitled "A Literary Cabinet." The idea of recording incidents relating to, or connected with, a coin, medal, or token, is very commendable, but the writer of the article suggests that the several coins in the cabinet are the actual specimens, referred to in each story, but offers nothing in proof of such. How he connects the shilling of George IV with "Kit," in "The Old Curiosity Shop," I cannot tell. It is not stated in the story that the shilling was dated 1821, and as "Kit" "expended his treasure in such purchases as he knew would be most acceptable at home," I am at a loss to know how the shilling in the cabinet could be said to be the identical specimen. It must be remembered that no value is attached to it except its sentimental one by reason of "Kit" having earned it, which certainly cannot be proved.

I have an interesting book, "Aureas, or the Life and Opinions of a Sovereign," written by himself, 1824. This purports to record the actions of the several owners of the coin.

In my opinion, the witer of the article, "A Literary Cabinet," has spoiled what would otherwise have been an interesting paper, by suggesting, if not actually stating, that the coins exhibited were the very specimens referred to by the several writers of the books quoted; and by also stating that the coins were each in a separate tray, as if each was of such remarkable value and rarity!

Had he simply referred to the coins as being similar to such mentioned by the several authors, no exception could have been taken to such action; but when the reader is given to understand that each is the identical specimen, as narrated by the author, the "bubble is burst!"

Strict accuracy is a first essential in connection with all articles dealing with scientific subjects; anything else detracts from rather than supports the cause. Yours respectfully,

MR. SAXTON'S REPLY TO MR. HAMER.

Davenport, Iowa, Sept. 10, 1911.

Dear Mr. Mehl:

I thank you for the privilege of reading so remarkable a letter as that of Mr. Hamer, relative to "A Literary Cabinet." Realizing the gravity of the situation I lost no time in calling on my friend who possesses this cabinet, for the purpose of showing him the letter. If I, merely as the one who related the incidents connected with our first meeting were to be called to serious

account, so much the more would the actual owner of the collection be interested. Heartily agreeing with your correspondent that "strict accuracy is a first essential in all articles dealing with scientific subjects," I also wished the statements I had peviously reported further substantiated.

My host's face revealed indignation, not unmixed with amusement, as he read the communication.

"When you asked permission to write a description of the collection," said he, "I feared there might be some doubt expressed as to its existence, for I realize better than anyone else the enormous difficulties in the way of securing such pieces. I spent a vast amount of time and money, and met with many a disappointment; but," he continued with great earnestness, "I positively know that each piece is genuine, and the identical coin mentioned in the books from which you quoted. On your first visit I promised that you should have the history of their acquisition; that would be too long to give you now, for, as I said, there is an evening's story to each piece. But I can easily settle the gentleman's doubts as to the shilling he holds up to the cold light of (his) logic. It is true that Kit parted with it soon after it came into his possession; the little shop at which he made the purchases was one where he was known, and, by at least one person in the establishment, most highly regarded. This was none other than an attractive young girl of about his own age—but not the Barbara who became his wife a few years later. Kit himself, shy to the extreme, little dreamed of the interest he had excited. On this particular day he was waited upon by the girl, and, elated by his good fortune, he told her of the incident. After he had gone she retained his shilling for a keepsake, replacing its value with money of her own. It remained in her possession for many years, knowledge of it coming by the merest chance to an old bookseller in London who had executed a number of commissions for me in his own line, and who knew of the cabinet I was trying to form. Upon learning from him the particulars I immediately instructed him to secure the shilling for me at any price, with a written statement, properly signed and attested, giving the history of the coin from the time it left Kit's hands. This he did. I have since visited England (during which trip I learned the whereabouts of the golden guinea Miss Alison hurled through the painted window) and talked personally with its former owner, besides quietly making independent investigation. I have no more reason to doubt that the shilling in my possession is the identical piece Kit received than I have that your critical correspondent lacks the blessed sense of humor."

"This is certainly most interesting," said I, "and I feel it is due you that your side of the case is presented. As to the expressed doubt of any possible connection between Kit and the shilling of George IV, dated 1821, it was because I wished to observe 'strict accuracy' in relating the circumstances that I was careful to mention the issue. The coin does exactly tally with this description, so there is nothing more to be said. True enough, 'it is not stated in the story that the coin was dated 1821;' nor does it give the size of Kit's shoes; but we would hardly be justified in concluding that this lack of information implied a lack of footwear. The great interest in the coins lies in the fact that they really are the originals mentioned, and not merely similar' pieces. Inconsistency in 'scientific subjects' is inexcusable. 'Truth is stranger than fiction' to most people, and I suppose for that reason is harder to believe."

"The sentimental value, as mentioned in the letter, seems to meet with the writer's disapproval," my friend remarked.

"So it seems," I replied. "Although I know of some collections, such as Traders' Tokens, where sentiment seems as lacking as artistic merit, which is putting it pretty strong. What do you think of the objection to your devoting a tray to each piece?"

He laughed. "A question of taste is never debatable, you know. And after all, I am not so crowded here that I need the room occupied by a few extra trays. Nor do I agree with the insinuation that the coins are not worthy of unusual display. If degree of rarity is determined by the available supply it would be hard to imagine the existence of a rarity any greater than that of the only piece of its kind."

Upon my departure I asked him if he had made any additions to the "Literary Cabinet" since our last meeting. "No," he replied, "but there are two pieces I expect to obtain soon—in fact, one is on the way now; the silver piece with which Jane Eyre crossed the palm of the supposed fortune teller, the disguised Rochester; and the other a real from the number paid by Don Quixote to Master Peter for the damage he did to the latter's puppet show in one of his warlike frenzies. But," he added with a gravity that was belied by a twinkle in his eye, "we must hereafter issue our stories in 'proof' condition." Sincerely yours, B. H. SAXTON.

The Chicago Numismatic Society

The 92nd monthly meeting of the above named society was held in their rooms, 1622 Masonic Temple, Friday evening, Sept. 1, President Harry F. Williams presiding. The following 16 members were present: Messrs. Holmes, Baker, Williams, Wilson, Lewis, Mayer, Kelly, Green, Nelson, Carey, V. M. Brand, Simpson, Leon, Henry Chapman, Peters and Dr. Henderson.

Verbal reports were made by members of various committees on A. N. A. convention matters. Messrs. Geo. J. Schwartz, Geo. L. Tilden and Frank Bescher were elected to membership. Mr. V. M. Brand exhibited silver ingots of Cochin China, one of which weighed 42 ounces. Interesting remarks were made by Dr. J. M. Henderson of Columbus, O., President of the A. N. A. and by Mr. Henry Chapman of Philadelphia.

Magazines received since last meeting were: Mehl's Numismatic Monthly for July and August, Spink's Circular and the Numismatist for August; auction catalogues from Green and Schulman (2); catalogue with fixed prices from Boudeau; priced catalogue from Low; and a coin book from G. C. Arnold.

Adjourned to meet Oct. 6, 1911. BEN G. GREEN, Secretary.

The 93rd monthly meeting of the above named society was held in their rooms, 1622 Masonic Temple, Friday evening, Oct. 6, President Harry F. Williams presiding. The following 17 members were present: Messrs. Edward Michael, Holmes, Baker, Williams, Loer, Wilson, Ripstra, Mayer, Green, Fred Michael, Nelson, Dunham, V. M. Brand, Simpson, Excell, Leon and Dr. Merrill. The resignation of Mr. Rudolph G. Mueller, active member No. 182, was read and accepted.

A communication was read from the Yokohama, Japan, Numismatic Society, inviting any of our members visiting that country to view the private collections of Yokohama members, and the Secretary was instructed to acknowledge the invitation. The Treasurer made a final report on disposition of convention fund. A copy of the aviation medal given the Wright Bros. by act of Congress was received from Mr. Geo. E. Roberts, director of the mint,

and the Secretary was instructed to acknowledge same. Mr. Loer presented a New York A. N. A. convention photo, which was ordered framed. Mr. V. M. Brand announced the sudden death of Mr. Jos. C. Mitchelson at Tariffville, Conn., and who had been a member of the Chicago Numismatic Society since April, 1905. The President appointed Messrs. V. M. Brand, Green and Holmes as a committee to draw suitable resolutions on Mr. Mithelson's death and to forward a cop yto his widow.

Under exhibitions Mr. V. M. Brand showed a 50 lire piece of Italy dated 1911 struck in commemoration of the 50th year of Italian unity; and Mr. Williams medallic doubloons of Chile, 1833, and Peru, 1836.

The following magazines were received since last report: Numismatische Correspondenz, Spink's Circular, Philatelic West and the Numismatist, all for September; auction catalogues from Cohn, Elder, Green, Hamburger, Low and Michael Bros.; catalogue with fixed prices from St. Louis Stamp & Coin Co.; priced catalogue from Low; and book on coinage by Moffat & Co., from Mr. E. H. Adams.

Adourned to meet Nov. 3, 1911. BEN G. GREEN, Secretary.

Paper Money of China

Written for MEHL'S NUMISMATIC MONTHLY.

By A. H. RAMSDEN, F. R. N. S.

It is generally admitted that the Chinese had in circulation paper money long before it was used in any other part of the world, but it is not so generally known that this tock place several centuries before the invention of printing in Europe.

Native authorities attribute the first issue of paper currency to the period Yung Hui, A. D. 650-656, during the reign of the Emperor Kao Tsung, the third ruler of the T'ang Dynasty, the various Chinese works on the subject illustrating several of these notes.

There is also historical evidence of a second issue assigned to the Emperor Hsien Tsung, A. D. 806-821, which series is authentically recorded, although no specimens appear to have been known to exist. These notes were appropriately called "Flying Money," and it is stated in connection with this issue that the Emperor, on account of the scarcity of cash, issued an edict prohibiting the manufacture of copper utensils, and, in order to provide for the monetary stringency, opened offices at the capital and other places at which merchants could deposit their coin in exchange for Government paper money notes.

After its inception, many succeeding Emperors seem to have resorted to this means in order to replenish their depleted treasuries. When the Government of China was divided, a mad race was entered upon by the various rulers in the indiscriminate issue of fiduciary money. Those dynasties whose rulers belonged to a foreign race, such as the Tartar and Mongol Emperors, were as prominent as those of pure Chinese descent in resorting to this extraordinary expedient of raising money.

The issue of paper money notes continued almost intermittently for some eight hundred years. Be it said, nevertheless, to the credit of China and the Chinese, that it was a dynasty of the Chinese race that ultimately placed the

Imperial finances on a sound basis, since the issue of paper currency was discontinued after the period Hung Hsi, A. D. 1425-1426, during the reign of the Emperor Jen Tsung, the fifth ruler of the great Ming dynasty.

This respite only lasted four hundred years, when the issue of paper notes was again revived and launched into circulation, but with disastrous results. This took place during the reign of a foreign race, during the period of Hsieng Feng, when a Manchu ruler belonging to the present dynasty of China sat on the dargon throne.

Marco Polo was the first European who made known to the Western world the practice of using instruments of credit in the country of the Great Kaan, and his comments on the notes themselves and how they were made from the bark of mulberry trees, shows how bewildered he was by the apparent signs of wealth around him and the greatness of the Mongol rulers in China.

The early notes were printed on pellow paper—the Imperial color. Blue, bordering on black, is the predominant color during mediaeval periods, while white is used for the more modern issues. Most of the notes are bordered with a pictorial design, the dragon being most often chosen for this purpose. A pictorial representation of the currency for which it is intended to pass for, is also found illustrated on the notes, which may be either a cash, or strings of cash, or silver ingots of various shapes. These are repeated or extended in proportion to correspond to the value of the notes, the higher the denomination the longer the string of cash or the greater the number of cash or ingots of silver reproduced.

Chinese paper notes are of two kinds; the ordinary issues and those made during war time, the former being for general uses, while the latter were for military requirements only. In comparison with other European or American bank notes, the Chinese notes were of extraordinary dimensions, sometimes as large as 15x10 inches, while those used for war purposes were a great deal smaller. They were all printed from wood blocks, some of which demonstrate the delicacy and perfection that can be obtained by this process. Huge vermillion seals are stamped usually on both sides of the notes, while other marks, both of government and private banks through which they have passed, give them an appearance of security and guarantee, so necessary in the currency mediums of that country.

The present paper money system in vogue in China is in the hands of the various provisional governments, whose notes, together with those of innumerable foreign and native banks and corporations, are only current within their restricted districts. The new currency reform about to be inaugurated in China it is hoped will do away with a system which has degeneated into chaos, but which is based on reasons which carry us back twelve hundred years.

ACKNOWLEDGED WITH THANKS.

From Mr. and Mrs. Samuel H. Hamer a beautiful token designed and issued by them commemorating their twenty-fifth wedding anniversary. Mr. Hamer is District Secretary of the American Numismatic Association for the British Isles, and has been a member of the Association for many years. He is one of the foremost collectors of tokens in the world, and his literary contributions of his favorite numismatic topic has appeared in the leading British and American numismatic publications.

We extend our heartiest congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Hamer and wish them the opportunity to issue similar tokens commemorating their "golden" wedding.

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1862 Cars	.08
1862 Negroes hoeing Cotton.....	.25
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VOLUME 4

NUMBER 11
Whole Number 47

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MONTHLY JOURNAL
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EDITED AND PUBLISHED BY

B. Max Mehl

NUMISMATIST

FORT WORTH, TEXAS, U. S. A.

THE "Thinking" Coin Collector, and the Collector with the slightest bit of curiosity must readily realize there MUST be a reason why I am doing so WELL in the coin business--"way down in Texas". I am always ready and willing--and in fact, anxious, to SHOW you the reason, if you will only give me an opportunity to serve you the next time you want to buy or sell anything in the Numismatic Line.

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NUMISMATIST

FORT WORTH, - - - - TEXAS

Mehl's Numismatic Monthly

Vol. IV. FORT WORTH, TEXAS, NOVEMBER, 1911 No. 11

Newspaper and Magazine Clippings pertaining to Coins thankfully received. Contributions from those interested in the Science solicited and liberally paid for

A Partial List of the Gold Coinage

OF

MEXICO, CENTRAL AMERICA AND SOUTH AMERICA, STRUCK BY OR FOR THE SEVERAL COUNTRIES THEREOF FROM THE DATE OF THEIR INDEPENDENCE.

Compiled by HARRY F. WILLIAMS

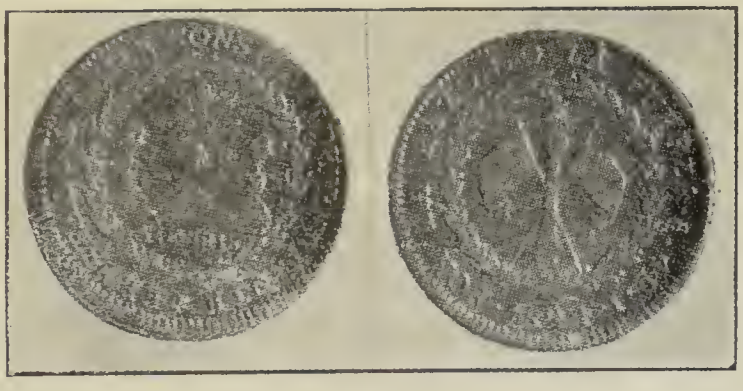
FROM THE

Catalogues of the Collections of Fonrobert, Mehli, Ulex and Salbach, From Catalogues of Other Collections, and From Specimens in the Collection of the Compiler.

(Continued from page 120.)

CHILE

1817.



Escudo ..... Legend "EL ESTADO D CHILE CONST. INDEPENDIEN." * Within a laurel wreath a radiant sun over a mountain range. The two end peaks are smoking volcanoes. At bottom of range (within wreath) "1818." Rev., "POR LA RAZON S. I. E." and mmz. Date below. Within laurel wreath, under a radiant star, a column, surmounted by a globe; behind column are 2 crossed flags.

2 Escudos . . . . . Similar, only "INDEPENDIENTE" and A. D. 1818. Rev. similar only 2 E.

4 Escudos . . . . . Similar to 2 Escudos, only "CONSTIT." Rev. similar to 2 Escudos, only 4 E.

Onza . . . . . Similar to 4 Escudos. Rev. similar, only 8 E.

Escudo	2 Escudos
1824 Williams (large planchet)	1824 Williams
1834 Fon. 9857 (small planchet)	1834 Salbach 217

4 Escudos	Onza
1824 Salbach 204	1819 Salbach 196
1834 Salbach 216	1820 Salbach 199
	1822 Salbach 202
	1834 Salbach 215

Medio Onza (?) . . . . . Legend "UNION * SEGURIDAD * FUERZA" on upper part of border; 6 stars in lower part of border. Within a circle, an Anchor. Rev., on border, 2 laurel branches, stems bound together at bottom, ends not meeting at top. In opening of wreath at top, a 5-pointed star, diffusing downward rays. Below in field, "CONSTITUC'N POLITICA | DE CHILE | JURADA | EN 18 D SETIEMBRE | DE 1828."

Note.—Fonrobert (9851) describes this piece in silver (weight, gr. 13.4), and calls it a medio peso.

1828 Salbach 207.

Weight, gr. 12.3, the same as ½ onza.

Onza . . . . . Legend "IGUALDAD ANTE LA LEI. 8 E. 1. J." Under rays, a hand resting on closed book, back of which is inscribed "CONSTITUCION." On lower border "* 21 Q's * Rev., "* REPUBLICA DE CHILE *" on border; below is the date. The coat of arms (3 feathers surmounting a shield, on which is a star. On either side, a crowned horse l. and a crowned eagle, r., both rampant) in field.

Medio Onza . . . . . Similar, except 4 E.

Cuarta de Onza . . . . . Similar, except 2 E.

Escudo . . . . . Similar, except 1 E.

Escudo
1838 Salbach 235

2 Escudos
1838 Fon. 9868
1836 A. M. Smith

4 Escudos
1836 Salbach

Onza
1835 Salbach 224
1836 Salbach 231

Onza . . . . . Legend "IGUALDAD ANTE—LA LEI. 8 E. 1. J." A helmeted figure of Liberty (Fon.) or Pallas (Ulex) facing r., rests her right hand on a book lying flat on an altar. Back of book is inscribed "CONSTITUCION." Her left hand rests on fasces, against which leans an overflowing horn of plenty. Below on border, "21 Q's." Rev. similar to that of preceding type.

Medio Onza . . . . . Similar, except 4 E.

Cuarta de Onza . . . . . Similar, except "2 E" and "CONSTITUC."

Escudo . . . . . Similar, except "1 E" and "CONSTITUC."

Escudo
1839 Salbach 239
1840 Fon. 9874
1841 Fon. 9877
1842 Salbach 246
1844 Salbach 251
1845 Fon. 9883
1846 Salbach 256

2 Escudos
1839 Fon. 9872
1841 Salbach 244

4 Escudos
1839 A. M. Smith

Onza
1841 Salbach 243
1844 Salbach 250
1845 Salbach 255
1839 A. M. Smith

Onza . . . . . Legend "IGUALDAD ANTE—LA LEI. 8 E. J. M." A female with liberty cap, facing r., rests right hand on top of open book, which rests on a low column. The page of book is inscribed "CONS | TITU | CION." Her left hand rests on fasces, against which leans a horn of plenty. Below on border, "21 Q's." Rev., the coat of arms, etc. Similar to the preceding. Date below.

Medio Onza . . . . . Similar, except 4 E.

Cuarta de Onza . . . . . Similar, except 2 E.

Escudo . . . . . Similar, except 1 E. and mmz.

Escudo
1851 Fon. 9897 (mmz. "L. A.")

2 Escudos
1846 Fon. 9885 (mmz. "I. J.")
1851 Fon. 9896 (mmz. "L. A.")

Onza
1848 Salbach 259
1850 Salbach 264 (mmz. "L. A.")
1851 Salbach 267 (mmz. "L. A.")

∫ Peso (Pattern) . . . . . Obv., Liberty Head (facing right) with diadem, on
(1/10 Condor (Fon.) which is a group of children. Legend, "REPUB-LIQUE—FRANCAISE." On lower border, "BARRE." Rev., "PRESSES | MONETAIRES DU CHILE | ESSAI | 1851."

1851 Fon. 9900, who gives the weight of this as 2.30 grammes. This must be an error, for it would be then worth $1.40.

Condor (10 Pesos) . . . . . Obv., Legend "* IGUALDAD ANTE LA LEI." A female with liberty cap, facing right; right hand rests on top of open book resting on top of low column. Page inscribed "CONS | TITU | CION." Left hand rests on fasces, against which leans a horn of plenty overflowing with money. On lower border, "10 P's." Rev., the coat of arms. Inscription around border, "REPUBLICA DE CHILE." Date below. Edge inscribed "POR LA RAZON O LA FUERZA * * * *" (Weight, 15.20 gr.)

Medio-Condor (5 Pesos). Obv., similar to condor, except "5 P's." Rev. similar to condor. Edge set with stars.

Escudo—1/5 Condor . . . . . Obv. similar to condor, except "2 P's." Rev. similar
(2 Pesos) to condor. Edge milled.

Escudo
1857 Fon. 9930
1858 Salbach 297
1859 Fon. 9938
1860 Fon. 9941
1873 Salbach 336
1874 Salbach 339
1875 Salbach 341

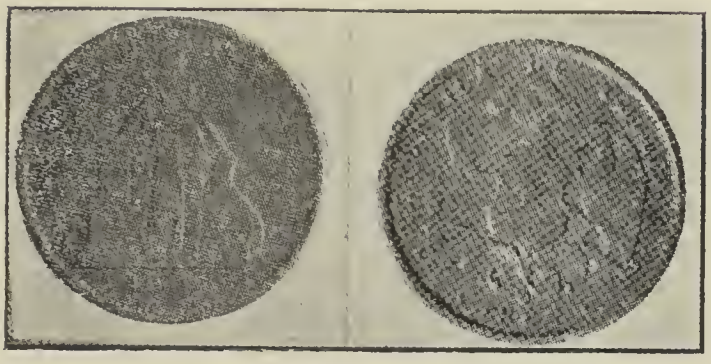
Medio Condor
1855 Fon. 9920

Condor
1852 Salbach 276
1853 Fon. 9912
1854 Salbach 284
1856 Salbach 287
1858 Salbach 299
1859 Salbach 299
1860 Salbach 303
1864 Salbach 313
1866 Salbach 317
1867 Salbach 319

1857 Fon. 9929	1868 Salbach 323
1858 Salbach (counterfeit)	1870 Salbach 329
1866 Salbach 317	1872 Salbach 333
1869 Salbach 327	1873 Salbach 335
1873 Salbach 335	1882 Salbach 352
	1887 Salbach 357

Peso (1 10 Condor) . . . . . "REPUBLICA—DE CHILE." The standing female as in foregoing condor. Rev., superscription, "IGUALDAD ANTE LA LEI *" Within a wreath of oak and laurel branches, 1 PESO, Date.

1860 Fon. 9942
1861 Fon. 9947
1863 Fon. 9951
1864 Salbach 314
1873 Salbach 337



5 Pesos . . . . . Head of the Republic with large liberty cap. Legend, "REPUBLICA—DE CHILE." Rev., coat of arms. Above on border, "CINCO PESOS." In exergue is date. (Wt., 29 gr.)
(New reduced wts.)

10 Pesos . . . . . Same, except "DIEZ PESOS." (Wt., 6 gr.)

5 Pesos	10 Pesos
1895 Salbach 363	1894 Salbach 362

Private issue of gold coins struck from gold from Terra Del Fuego, obtained by Julius Popper by mining. Only a small quantity was struck.

5 Gramos . . . . . "TERRA DEL FUEGO." In centre a roughened surfaced circle, in which are pickaxe and hammer crossed. In front of these a band inscribed "POPPER." Below on border, "1889." Rev., "LAVADEROS D EORO." A similar circle, in which is a large 5, across which is a band inscribed "GRAMOS." Below on border, "DEL SUD."

1 Gramo . . . . . Obv. similar to 5 Gramos, except no pickaxe or hammer. Rev., "EL PARAMO." The crossed pickaxe and hammer in the roughened circle, at top. In lower part of circle (curved), "AU. 864 A 6132." Below on border, "UN GRAMO."

1 Gramo	5 Gramos
1889 Ulex 3738	1889 Ulex 3737

20 Pesos (New reduced wts.) ..... Draped bust of the Republic, with coiled hair, facing left. Legend, "REPUBLICA—DE CHILE." Rev., coat of arms of Chile. Above on border, "VEINTE PESOS." In exergue is date. (Wt., 12 gr.)

10 Pesos ..... Same as 20 Pesos, except "DIEZ PESOS." (Wt., 6 gr.)

5 Pesos ..... (In doubt as to whether the piece given below is of this type or f the type preceding.)

5 Pesos
1898 Salbach 371

20 Pesos
1896 Salbach 367

10 Pesos
1896 Salbach 368
1901 Salbach 374

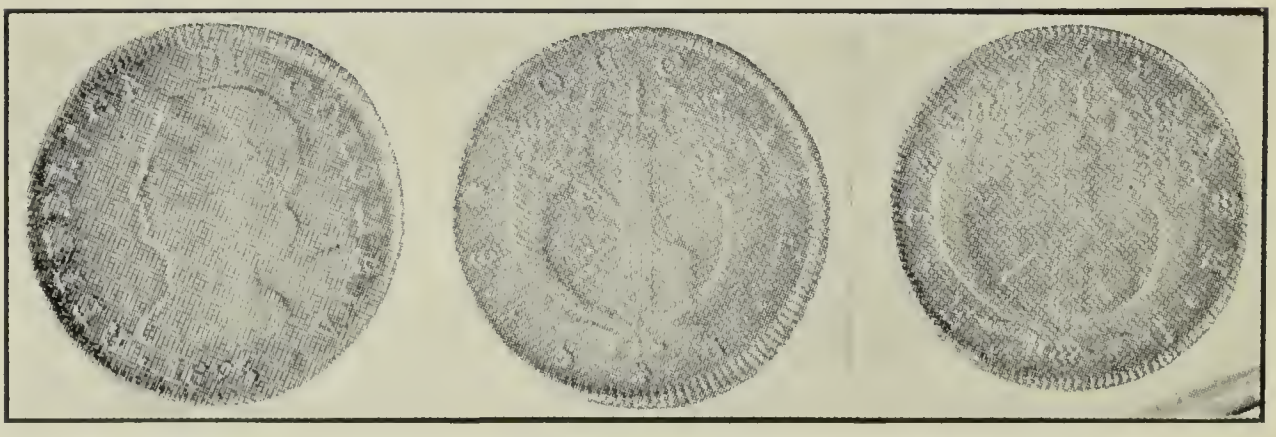
COLOMBIA

(a) Nueva-Granada, 1811-1819.
(b) Colombia, 1819-1836.
(c) Nueva-Granada, 1837-1858.
(d) Confederacion Granadina, 1859-1862.
(e) Estados Unidos de Colombia, 1862.

In 1821, Venezuela and Panama, and in 1822 Ecuador joined Colombia.
In 1835, Ecuador and in 1847 Venezuela withdrew.

MINTS:

Santa Fé de Bogota.
Medellin.
Popayan.



Peso (de Bogota) ..... "REPUBLICA DE COLOMBIA." Bust of Liberty (l.) with band in hair, on which "LIBER" is incused. Below on border, the date. Rev., "BOGOTA." Two horns of plenty with fasces between them. Latter has bow and 3 arrows (crossed) in front of it. Below on border, "* I. P. * I. F. *."

Scudo (de Bogota) ..... Obv. similar to Peso, except "LIBERT." Rev. similar to Peso, except "* I. S. * I. F. *"

Escudo (de Popayan) ....Obv. similar to Scudo (de Bogota) Rev. similar to Scudo (de Bogota), except "* L. E. * F. M. *" on lower border.

Doblado (2 Scudos) .....Obv. similar to Peso, except "LIBERTAD." Rev. (de Bogota) similar to Peso, except "2 S. * R. S. *"

Onza (de Bogota) .....Obv. similar to Peso, except "LIBERTAD." Rev. similar to Peso, except :: 8 S. :: R. S. ::

Onza (de Popayan) .....Obv. similar to Onza de Bogota. On lower border, 1824. Rev. similar to Onza de Bogota, except "* 8 E. * F. M. *"

Onza (de Popayan) .....Obv. similar to Onza de Bogota. On lower border, 1833. Rev. similar to Onza de Bogota, except "8 E. * U. R. *"

BOGOTA.

Peso	Doblado
1825 Fon. 8071	1836 Fon. 8081
1826 Fon. 8072	Media-Onza
1827 Ulex 2746	1827 A. M. Smith
1829 Fon. 8074	
1835 Salbach 1717	Onza
1836 Salbach 1719	1825 Salbach 1707
	1836 Fon. 8080
Scudo	1827 A. M. Smith
1823 Fon. 8069	
1825 Ulex 2745	
1832 Ulex 2746	

POPAYAN.

Escudo	Onza
1823 Fon. 8221	1824 Salbach 1784
1824 Fon. 8222	1833 Salbach 1789
1825 Salbach 1786	1829 A. M. Smith
1826 Salbach 1786	
1826 Fon. 8223	
1827 Fon. 8224	
1831 Salbach 1787	
1832 Fon. 8229	
1833 Fon. 8231	
1835 Ulex 2715	

Peso (de Bogota) ....."REPUBLICA DE LA NUEVA GRANADA." Draped bust of Liberty with band around head; incused "LIBERTAD." Below on border, the date. Rev. "UN PESO. BOGOTA. R. S. *" A descending condor holds in beak a ribbon with "LIBERTAD—1 ORDEN." incused. Below, the National Shield.

Escudo (de Popayan) ....Obv. similar to Peso de Bogota. Rev. similar to Peso de Bogota, except "DOS PESOS. POPAYAN. U. M. *"

Onza (de Bogota) .....Obv. similar to eso. Rev. similar to Peso, except "DIEZ I SEIS PESOS. BOGOTA. R. S. *"

Onza (de Popayan) .....Similar to Onzo de Bogota, except "POPAYAN. U. E."

BOGOTA.

Peso	Onza
1837 Salbach 1721	1842 Fon. 8096
1838 Fon. 8086	1840 Williams
1839 Williams	1846 Salbach 1730
1840 Fon. 8092	1843 A. M. Smith
1842 Fon. 8097	
1844 Salbach 1727	
1846 Fon. 8107	

POPAYAN.

Escudo	Onza
1843 Fon. 8235	1839 Salbach 1792
1845 Fon. 8236	1846 Fon. 8237
1846 Fon. 8238	
1846 Fon. 8239 ("U. E.")	
1838 A. M. Smith	

Escudo or 2 Pesos (de Bogota) ..... "NUEVA GRANADA." Liberty head (L); in hair a band inscribed "LIBERTAD." Date underneath on border. Rev. "BOGOTA." Between two Mercury-Staffs, surrounded by laurel branches, "PESO | 3,2258. G |". Underneath on border, "LEI 0,900."

Cuarto de Onza (de Bogota) ..... Obv. similar. Rev. similar except "6.4516 G."

Media Onza (de Bogota).. Obv. similar to above, except legend is "REPUBLICA DE NUEVA GRANADA." Rev., "BOGOTA. PESO 12.9032 G." A condor with outstretched wings, looking to right, and holding in beak a double string of beads(?), is above the National Shield, which is in front of 4 crossed flags, and is surmounted by a band inscribed "LIBERTAD—I ORDEN." Underneath on border (Mercury-staff), "LEI. 0.900" (Mercury-staff).

Onzo of 16 Pesos (de Bogota) ..... Obv. similar, except "W W" incused on neck. Rev. similar to Media Onza, except "PESO 25.8064 G" and "DIOS . LEI . LIBERTAD" incused on edge.

Escudo
1848 Fon. 8122 (Essai)
1849 Fon. 8134
1851 Fon. 8141

Cuarta de Onza
1848 Fon. 8120 (Essai)
1849 Fon. 8133 (Essai in silver)

Media Onza
1848 Fon. 8117 (Essai)

Onza
1848 Fon. 8115 (Essai)
1849 Fon. 8132 (Essai in silver)

Condor(?) ..... "REPUBLICA DE LA NUEVA GRANADA." Usual head of Liberty. Date below. Rev., "BOGOTA. PESO 16.400 G." The condor above the usual shield, etc. On lower border, "LEI 0.900," with Mercury wand on either side.

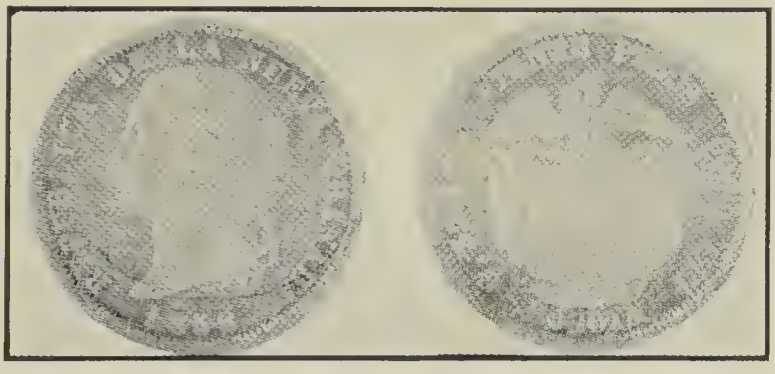
1856 Snowden, Plate XXIII.

Escudo (de Popayan) ..... "NUEVA GRANADA." Liberty head (l.), in hair a band, inscribed "LIBERTAD." Date on lower border. Rev., "P PESO G. 3.225." Between two lily branches, surrounded by laurel branches, "2 | PESOS." On lower border, "LEI 0.900."

Media Onza ..... "REPUBLICA DE LA NUEVA GRANADA." (de Popayan) Otherwise similar to Obv. of Escudo. Rev., "POPAYAN PESO 12.9032 G." Before 4 crossed flags, the National Shield, surmounted by band inscribed "LIBERTAD—1 ORDEN." Above, a condor, facing right, with outstretched wings, holds in beak a laurel wreath. On lower border (lily stalk), "LEI 0.900" (lily stalk).

Escudo
1858 Fon. 8246

Media Onza
1849 Fon. 8242 (Essai in silver)



Media Condor (5 Pesos) .. "NUEVA GRANADA." Head of Liberty (l.); band in hair inscribed "LIBERTAD"; date on lower border. Rev., "B. PESO G. 8064." On lower border, "LEI 0.900." "5 | PESOS" in field, between 2 Mercury wands, surrounded by laurel.

Onza of 20 Pesos ..... "REPUBLICA DE LA NUEVA GRANADA." (de Bogota) Head of Liberty (l.); in hair a band inscribed "LIBERTAD." Under neck, "L. C. W." On lower border, the date. Rev., "G. 32.258—VIENTE PESOS—LEI 0.900." Before 4 crossed flags, the National Shield, surmounted by a band, inscribed "LIBERTAD—1 ORDEN." Above, a condor, facing right, holds in beak a laurel wreath. Below on border, "BOGOTA."

Peso ..... Obv. similar, except "L. C. W." is omitted. Rev., "B PESO G. 1.612." Between 2 Mercury-wands, surrounded by laurel branches, "1 PESO." Below on border, "LEI 0.900."

Peso
1858 Fon. 8158 (Essai in silver)

Onza
1858 Fon. 8157 (Essai in silver)

Media Condor
1857 Fon. 8155

Condor (10 Pesos) (de Popayan) ....."CONFEDERACION GRANADINA." Head of Liberty (l; in hair a band inscribed "LIBERTAD." On lower border the date. Rev., "* DIEZ PESOS *" Before 4 crossed flags, the National Shield, surmounted by a band inscribed "LIBERTAD—1 ORDEN." Above it, a condor with outstretched wings, facing right, holds in beak a laurel wreath. On left border, "G 16.129." On lower border, "* POPAYAN *" On right border, "LEI 0.900."

Double Condor (10 Pesos). (de Bogota) Obv. similar. Rev., "VIENTE PESOS," "BOGOTA," "G. 32.258," otherwise similar to the Pesos, except "DIOS . LEI . LIBERTAD" incused on edge.

Condor	Double Condor
1859 Fon. 8247	1859 Fon. 8160

Peso (de Medellin) ....."COLOMBIA." Head of Liberty (l.; band in hair, inscribed "LIBERTAD." On lower border, * * * * * * * * * * Rex., "M. PESO G. 1.612." In field, an open wreath, in which is "1 | PESO | 1864." Below on boder, "* LEI 0.900 *".

1863 Ulex 2678
1864 Fon. 8201

Peso (de Medellin) ....."ESTADOS UNIDOS DE COLOMBIA." Head of Liberty (l.), with band in hair inscribed "LIBERTAD." Date under the neck in exergue. On lower border, "* * * * * * * * * *". Rev., "* UN PESO *". Condor on strip of ground, with outstretched wings, looking right. On left border, "G. 1.612." On right border, "LEI 0.900." On lower border, "MEDELLIN."

Peso (de Bogota) .....Obv., same as that of Medellin Peso. Rev., no stars before and after "UN PESO," and "BOGOTA" instead of "MEDELLIN." Otherwise similar to Medellin Peso.

Medellin Peso	Bogota Peso
1872 Ulex 2679	1873 Fon. 8176

2 Pesos (de Medillin)....."ESTADOS UNIDOS DE COLOMBIA." Head of Liberty (l.), with band in hair inscribed "LIBERTAD." Date under neck in exergue. On lower border, "* * * * * * * * * *". Rev., "G 3.225 DOS PESOS LEI 0.900." Condor with outstretched wings, head to right, holding wreath in beak, is above the National Shield, surmounted by band inscribed "LIBER—1 ORDEN." Shield is in front of 4 crossed flags. Below on border, "MEDELLIN."

1871 Salbach 1815
1872 Salbach 1816

Condor (10 Pesos) (de Medellin) ..... "ESTADOS UNIDOS DE COLOMBIA." Head of Liberty (l.); band in hair inscribed "LIBERTAD." Date under neck in exergue. On lower border, 9 stars. Rev., in front of 4 crossed flags, the National Shield, surmounted by band inscribed "LIBERTAD—1 ORDEN." On border (left), "G. 16.129" (above) "* DIEZ PESOS *", (right) "LEI 0.900." (below) "* MEDELLIN *".

Condor (de Bogota) .... Obv. similar. Rev. similar, except "* BOGOTA *".

Medellin Condor	Bogota Condor
1864 Fon. 8200	1863 Fon. 8165
1867 Fon. 8202	

Double Condor) (Pattern by Barre) ..... "ESTADOS UNIDOS DE COLOMBIA." Head of Liberty, with flowing curly hair (l). Band in hair, inscribed "LIBERTAD." Below neck, "A. B." Below, in exergue, the date. On lower border, "ESSAI" over 11 stars, at left hand end. Rev., "G. 32.258. VEINTE PESOS. LEI 0.900." The coat of arms (shield, flags, etc.). The condor holding in beak a festoon of laurel leaves. Under coat of arms, "ESSAI." On lower border, "MEDELLIN."

Condor (Pattern by Barre) ..... Obv. similar, except "ESSAI" over 11 stars, at right end of row. Rev. similar, except "G. 16.129. DIEZ PESOS" and below coat of arms, to right, the word "ESSAI" perpendicular.

1872 Fon. 8204
1873 Fon. 8206 in silver

Condor
1873 Fon. 8207

COMMENT FROM READERS.

I invite my readers to comment on the Numismatic Monthly. I do not mean by this that I want you to throw bouquets—I want your fair criticism, whether it is complimentary or otherwise. If I publish an article that pleases you, I want you to tell me so; if I do not give sufficient attention to any particular subject on numismatics, or any of the methods or manner of publication does not come up to what you think a numismatic publication should be, I am anxious to have you express your candid opinion. In this way only can I ever hope to issue the Monthly in a manner satisfactory and instructive to the majority of its readers. Through the fair criticism of the readers I can easily learn just what and what not to publish. By dropping me a line now and then, you will be doing me as well as the numismatic science a greater favor than you probably realize. B. MAX MEHL.

History of the Trade Dollar

IT IS A GENUINE COIN, BUT IT IS WORTH ONLY FIFTY CENTS.

(Kansas City Star.)

Have you chanced to meet a trade dollar in its travels recently? Do you know what a trade dollar is? One is loose in Kansas City, passing like a hot potato from hand to hand. You may get it in a bunch of silver dollars given to you as change for a bill. If you do not chance to notice that it is different, you may offer it to some more observant person in payment and be told by him that it is not good. Then you will scrutinize it and try to remember where you got it. If you can't do that, you will have a wrestle with your conscience over the question whether you shall try to pass it as a dollar to some person unobserving as yourself or keep it as a souvenir of your carelessness in money matters.

A trade dollar is slightly larger than a standard dollar, but it is not current coin, and its metal value is only about 40 cents, though coin collectors will pay 80 cents for it.

So many of these mongrel dollars were in circulation twenty years and more ago that most persons were watchful to avoid getting one, but in recent years they have been so rare that many persons have never seen one.

Trade dollars were authorized by Congress in 1873 for the purpose of stimulating commerce with the Orient. For many years the Mexican silver dollar had been a highly valued coin in nearly all far Eastern countries. Hundreds of millions of them were shipped to China, Japan, the Philippines and other countries in that part of the world to pay for the products exported from them to Europe and the United States.

American lawmakers thought that a coin of practically the same weight and size as the Mexican dollar, bearing the imprint of the United States, could be used advantageously as a substitute for the Mexican dollar.

In the five years beginning with 1873 the United States mint produced nearly 36,006,000 of these dollars. Most of them were exported, but enough of them remained in this country to be embarrassing because of their similarity to the standard silver dollar, and in 1887 Congress provided that for six months thereafter all trade dollars presented to the Treasury should be exchanged for standard dollars, and after that time the trade dollars were left to shift for themselves, being worth only their metal value, plus whatever premium coin collectors might be willing to pay for them. Nearly 8,000,000 of them were redeemed, and when the period for redemption ended only 284,587 of them remained in this country, less than 1 per cent of the number that had been coined.

The trade dollar has on one side a sitting figure of the Goddess of Liberty, and on the other an eagle of a different design from that on the standard dollar. The inscription is: "United States of America, Trade Dollar, 420 grains, 900 fine."

The standard silver dollar weighs 412½ grains. The weight of the Mexican dollar is 417.79 grains, but 97.27 per cent of it is pure silver, so that, though it weighs less, its metal value is about 7 per cent more than that of the old trade dollar. Probably this is the reason the trade dollar never made a hit with the people of the far East. There is ground for suspicion that the originators of the trade dollar thought the Orientals might be duped into taking it in preference to the Mexican dollar, because of its slightly greater weight, notwithstanding the fact that its silver value was about 7 per cent less. But the Oriental money changers quickly learned this difference in value, and the deception wouldn't work.

The trade dollar was authorized by the coinage act of 38 years ago, which became famous under the designation of "the crime of '73" in the free silver agitation which began a few years later and continued with more or less virulene for more than 20 years.

In the famous coinage act of 1873 the trade dollar was substituted for the standard silver dollar and all silver coins were made legal tender for an amount not exceeding $5. That had been the limit of the legal tender quality of all fractional silver coins since 1853. The standard silver dollar had been an unlimited legal tender, but it was practically out of use. In all the 80 years prior to 1873 only 8,031,238 of them had been coined, and during nearly all of that time they were worth more to ship to the Orient than to use at home; in other words, they were worth a premium over old coins.

In the five years following 1873 the coinage of trade dollars amounted to more than four times the coinage of standard silver dollars during the entire 80 years preceding. Evidently, therefore, the "crime of '73" did not cause any diminution in the demand for silver.

The price of silver began to fall in 1872 and its continued decline in the succeeding years started an agitation for the restoration of its use as a standard money. The persistent demand for the "rehabilitation of silver" resulted in the passage of a law by Congress over the President's veto, in 1878, for the coinage of not less than 2,000,000 or more than 4,000,000 silver dollars monthly, the metal to be purchased by the Government in the open market.

Under this law 378,000,000 silver dollars were coined, but the decline in the price of silver was checked only temporarily, and in 1890 Congress authorized the purchase of 4,500,000 ounces monthly, and the issue of demand treasury notes in payment for it. The purchases continued until 1893, when President Cleveland forced an unwilling Congress to repeal the law. Coinage of dollars out of the silver purchased under this law continued until 1904. Since that year no silver dollars have been coined.

In all over $150,000,000 of Treasury notes were issued for the purchase of silver. The Government has been retiring these notes since 1893, substituting silver dollars for them. On March 1 of this year only $3,388,000 of them remained in circulation. Whenever one gets into the United States Treasury it is destroyed. It is a vanishing form of American currency.

The present supply of standard silver dollars in the United States is nearly 565,000,000. About 74,000,000 are in circulation and in the banks. The Treasury vaults hold 490,000,000 of them 133,000 tons—which are represented by silver certificates in circulation.

The trade dollar is an important link between the two periods of this country's experience with silver—the first from the foundation of the mints up to 1873, during which 8,000,000 of

"free coinage" dollars were put out; the second from 1873 to 1893, when, in an effort to restore silver to use as a standard money metal enough silver was purchased by the Government to coin the 565,000,000 dollars in existence at the present time.

Account of the Death of Joseph C. Mitchelson

(From the Hartford "Daily Courant.")
Clipping received through kindness of J. C. Hills.

Tariffville, Sept. 25.

Joseph C. Mitchelson, one of the most prominent of Tariffville's citizens, and a man whose reputation as a tobacco dealer and as a collector of coins, curios and antiques has spread far and wide, died suddenly this afternoon while visiting his farm in Simsbury, about two miles from here. When he left his home about 4 o'clock he was apparently in the best of health. He walked to the farm alone, and it is believed death resulted from heart failure due to the exertion.

Mr. Mitchelson was 56 years old, having been born May 22, 1856, the son of Ariel and Elizabeth Chappell Mitchelson of Tariffvile. His father was the pioneer tobacco dealer in Tariffville and did much to introduce the profitable culture of the plant as a Connecticut industry. His mother came from East Lynne and was a niece of Francis B. Loomis, former lieutenant governor of Connecticut and a descendant of the old Loomis family that settled in Windsor. The Mitchelson lands in Tariffville and Simsbury date back to the early settlement of the country.

Joseph C. Mitchelson was the third child and after completing a course of study at Dr. Nash's Institute for Boys in Amherst, Mass., he attended the Eastman Business College at Poughkeepsie, N. Y. Shortly afterward he went West, and built up an immense leaf tobacco business in Kansas, with stores at Kansas City and San Francisco. He possessed the energetic spirit and business tact that was a characteristic of his father and although he never personally took to the culture of tobacco, his powers of organization as a dealer acted as a boom for the growth of the plant and put his name as one of the most important ones in the development of the industry.

Mr. Mitchelson remained in Kansas City until about 1900, when he re turned to the home of his boyhood—Tariffville. He continued to carry on a tobacco business in a smaller way, and it was believed that he was planning to engage in the actual culture of the plant on his farm, which consists of over a thousand acres. So great was his interest in the comparatively new Connecticut industry that he was elected president of the Connecticut Tobacco Corporation for a term.

Mr. Mitchelson was an extensive collector of coins, curios and antiques, his collections along these lines embracing some exceedingly rare specimens, assembled at no small expense and trouble. He had one of the most complete collections of American coins in the United States, consisting of colonial coins and private issues in gold, with the regular issues from the first pieces coined to the present date, as well as a complete collection of the fractional currency.

This valuable collection of coins upon the death of the collector becomes the property of the State of

Connecticut. They are now held in a large vault at the Aetna National Bank. Preparatory to giving them a permanent place for exhibition in Memorial Hall at the State Library building the State has nearly completed at considerable expense, a vault with special burglar proof attachments which will protect the coins securely. It was expected to get the coins in place that the collector might see them before long. The vault is all ready for their reception as soon as the steel workers line the interior with steel plates. The value of the coins at face is said to be $70,000. The oak doors to the vault already bear the inscription, "Joseph C. Mitchelson Collection." Mr. Mitchelson had seen and approved of the future resting place of his coins. He knew of no safer place where he could deposit them, at the same time place them where others could see them. The very value of these coins has prevented them from being exhibited until given particular protection.

While in the West, Mr. Mitchelson married Miss Emma Wilson, daughter of George and Jane (Prouth) Wilson of Genesee, Ill. The couple had no children, so besides his wife Mr. Mitchelson leaves two brothers, George and Ariel, both of Tariffville, and a sister, Mrs. Elizabeth M. Gorton of Hartford.

"DEI GRATIA" WILL GO BACK ON THE COINS

Ottawa, Oct. 21.—The Canadian silver and copper cains struck off this year do not carry the words "Dei Gratia." This is said to be due to an "inadvertence," and next year's output will bear the time-honored words.

The legend on the 1911 cent is GEORGIVS V REX ET IND: IMP:, and the word "CANADA" is on the Reverse, while on the earlier cents of King Edward VII and Queen Victoria it has always been on the Obverse.

THE POST BANK CERTIFICATE LOOKS LIKE CURRENCY.

The certificate of the new postal savings bank, issue of which began Jan. 1, 1911, present an elaborate front to the savings depositor. They have a margin not unlike a bank note, but a body of a reddish color.

The words "one dollar" make up the body of the certificate, appearing hundreds of times, and the following promise incircles the eagle in the center:

"The faith of the United States is solemnly pledged to the payment of depostis with accrued interests."

DINNER-PLATE PENNIES GONE

Big Copper Cents Have All Been Recoined, Also Nickel Cents.

Washington, D. C.—The disappearance of the large copper cent and the nickle cent from circulation has brought about a curious condition in the United States Treasury. None of these pieces have been coined for years, but enough of them were returned to the Treasury each year to give the Government a good profit in recoining them into smaller cents and into nickle 5-cent pieces.

Officials of the Treasury Department have informed Congress that these pieces practically have gone out of existence, and to keep up the supply of new cents and nickles, Congress will have to appropriate money to pay the expense of coinage.

We learn from Mr. S. S. Heal of Toronto, of the death of Mr. Warwick William Wroth, the Senior Assistant Keeper of Coins and Medals in the British Museum.

Mr. Wroth was one of the greatest numismatists in England. He was the author of several publications of the British Museum, treating of the Ancient Greek Coin.

Unnecessary Coins

The proposal to have a two and one-half cent piece included in the American mint series has taken definite form, and a bill is now before the House of Representatives providing for such a coin.

The advocates of the bill declare that such a coin is sorely needed in trade and its circulation would accrue to the general benefit. Perhaps it would, but the popular demand has not been expressed very urgently.

The history of coinage in this country shows a tendency to get along with as few different kinds of coins—not with as few coins, which is quite a different thing!—as possible. A man need not be a patriarch to remember when a number of coins were in circulation that are no longer minted because the public regarded them as a nuisance rather than a blessing.

There were the copper two-cent piece, the silver and nickel three-cent pieces, the silver twenty-cent piece, the quarter-dollar, dollar, three-dollar and fifty-dollar gold pieces, to say nothing of the big copper penny and the silver half-dime, the places of which were taken by coins of more convenient form.

None of these coins enjoyed popular favor. They caused confusion and trouble as long as they were in circulation. Perhaps the two and one-half cent piece would prove just what we need, but it will require a good deal of argument to convert many to that opinion. —Cincinnati Times-Star.

SUSPENSION OF GOLD COINAGE.

A Washington dispatch says that in consequence of a new law authorizing the Secretary of the Treasury to issue gold certificates against gold bullion no more gold will be coined for about three years. The coinage of silver and minor coins, nickels and cents, will continue as usual. The result will be an accumulation of gold bullion by the mints and the issuing of a new form of paper money or gold certificates instead of five, ten and twenty dollar gold pieces. Gold coins are not much in demand except when they cannot be obtained, as during a general suspension of specie payments, but ordinarily most persons prefer to carry paper money. A suspension of the coinage of gold for three years, or even longer, will not make any appreciable difference in the amount in circulation.

The last report of the director of the mint shows that since its establishment in 1793 the Government has coined $2,193,627,000 in $20 gold pieces, $445,534,140 in $10 pieces, $328,203,195 in $5 pieces, $1,619,376 in $3 pieces, $33,823,897.50 in $2.50 pieces and $19,809,664 in dollars. The $10 piece, $5 piece and $2.50 piece began to be coined in 1793, and have been coined pretty steadily ever since. The 020 piece was first coined in 1850, the $3 piece in 1854 and the gold dollar in 1849. Coinage of the $3 piece and the dollar was discontinued in 1889. The issue of other gold coins has continued from year to year with occasional intervals. The total amount of gold coins of all denominations issued since the formation of the Government up to June 30, 1909, was $3,021,837,272.50.

None of this has evaporated, but much of it has become worn by circulation and been recoined, and much has gone into the melting pots of the world or been utilized in manufacturing. Last year the Government coined 5,233,212 ounces of gold and in 1904 it coined 10,091,929 ounces. Formerly gold certificates were issued against gold coin deposited in the Treasury in denominations as low as $10 and as high as $10,000. Under the new law and the temporary suspension of gold coinage they will be issued against gold bullion in denominations as low as $2.50.

—Indianapolis News.

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Jun Kobayagawa Co.

Numismatists and Philatelists

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EXPERTS OF FAR EASTERN COINS.

Our Foreign Manager is a F.R.N.S., Member A. N. A., A. N. S., etc.

If interested in Far Eastern Coins, Medals, Charms and Amulets, write to us.

COIN COLLECTORS desirous of becoming members of the Minnesota Numismatic Association now in course of formation, are requested to communicate with Marshall Alexander, Suite 515, Court Block, St. Paul, Minn.

"We All Have Our Hobbies"

$100 Confederate Bills are getting scarce; I can offer:

1861 Wagon loading Cotton.....	.18
1862 Cars	.08
1862 Negroes hoeing Cotton.....	.25
1864 Mrs. Davis	.18

Dealers usually do not advertise these varieties much because supply has been small, but a fortunate purchase, "a find," was my chance and is your opportunity.

A collection of 15 miscellaneous $1 bills, different, 60c.

LUTHER B. TUTHILL

South Creek, N. C.

THE CATALOGUE OF THE

CHARLES W. COWELL COLLECTION

Is "A Liberal Education so far as Coin Rarities Are Concerned."

A nearly complete collection of United States Coins, especially of gold, of all mints. Also one of the most complete collections of Fractional Currency. Over seventeen hundred lots, aggregating in value upward of $10,000.00.

The list showing prices of each lot, only 50c.

This is not only a "liberal education," but a very cheap one.

If you have not already ordered your list, do so now before the supply is exhausted.

Remit in unused stamps if you desire.

B. MAX MEHL

NUMISMATIST

FORT WORTH, - - - - - TEXAS

United States Fractional Currency

Especially Arranged and Offered for the Beginner or Young Collector.

The Prices are for Nice, Clean Notes in Perfect State of Preservation.

FIRST ISSUE. (Postage Currency).

5c. Brown, fac-simile of 5c stamp.....$ .30
10c. Green, fac-simile of 10c stamp..... .30
25c. Brown, fac-simile of five 5c stamps; scarce..... .75
50c. Green, fac-simile of five 10c stamps..... 1.10

The Complete Set of Four Notes, $2.25.

SECOND ISSUE.

All with Portrait of Washington in oval gold frame; levee scene below.

5c. Brown back .....$ .30
10c. Green back ..... .30
25c. Lilac back, very scarce..... .75
50c. Orange back. Very scarce note..... 1.25

The Complete Set Second Issue Notes, $2.50.

THIRD ISSUE.

3c. Portrait of Washington. Only 3¢ note, and smallest denomination note issued. Very scarce .....$ .75
5c. Portrait of Clark. Scarce note ..... .35
10c. Portrait of Washington ..... .35
25c. Portrait of Fessenden ..... .75
50c. Portrait of Spinner 1.25
50c. Justice seated. Scarce 1.35

The Set of Six Notes, only $4.25.

FOURTH ISSUE.

10c. Note, Portrait of Liberty .....$ .30
15c. Portrait of Columbia. Rare 1.25
25c. Large Portrait of Washington ..... .60
50c. Portrait of Stanton 1.00
50c. Portrait of Lincoln. Rare 1.25

The Set of Five Notes $4.00.

FIFTH ISSUE.

10c. Meredith .....$ .25
25c. Portrait of Walker ..... .45
50c. Portrait of Dexter 1.00
50c. Portrait of Crawford ..... .90

The Set of Four Notes, $2.25.

An ordinary set of the Fractional Currency, comprising just the different denominations, 3c, 5c, 10c, 15c, 25c and 50c notes, types of my selection, price $4.00

SPECIAL OFFER: I offer the entire collection as listed above, twenty-three varieties, representing each and every issue and denomination of the Fractional Currency, for only.....$15.00

Please remember that the above prices are for UNCIRCULATED specimens.

I also have in stock nearly all the rarities of this currency; the Red Backs with printed and autograph signatures of Colby, Spinner, Allison and Jeffries. The rare Fessenden note with solid gold disks; Grant and Sherman notes, etc. Selections cheerfully sent on approval.

B. MAX MEHL

NUMISMATIST

FORT WORTH, ... TEXAS

VOLUME 4

NUMBER 12
Whole Number 48

Mehl's Numismatic Monthly

AN ILLUSTRATED
MONTHLY JOURNAL
PUBLISHED IN THE
INTEREST OF COINS AND
COIN COLLECTORS

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EDITED AND PUBLISHED BY
B. Max Mehl
NUMISMATIST
FORT WORTH, TEXAS, U. S. A.

Appreciation

Prompted by a feeling of exceptional gratitude, I desire to express my appreciation and thanks for the generous support and patronage during the past year.

And I wish you a prosperous year to come.

B. Max Mehl

Numismatist

Fort Worth, - - - - - Texas

Mehl's Numismatic Monthly

Vol. IV. FORT WORTH, TEXAS, DECEMBER, 1911 No. 12

Newspaper and Magazine Clippings pertaining to Coins thankfully received. Contributions from those interested in the Science solicited and liberally paid for

Announcement Extraordinary!

Just four years ago at this time I was preparing "copy" for the announcement of the initial number of Mehl's Numismatic Monthly. In that announcement I told of my then successful career as a dealer in the numismatic field, and also told of my plans for the Numismatic Monthly.

My plans at that time was to increase the Numismatic Monthly in size and importance with my increasing business. But since then, and during the past two years of my business seems to have responded more readily and in greater volume to my efforts than did my numismatic publication—probably as a result that it was found impossible to give it the same persistent efforts I devote to my business, although I am convinced that the prestige and circulation of the Monthly is all that could be hoped for.

But my experience in publishing a Numismatic Magazine convinces me more than ever before—notwithstanding opinions to the contrary—that the numismatic field in this country is large enough to support and appreciate another numismatic publication besides the official organ of the American Numismatic Association.

My experience gained in the past four years, together with the knowledge what is desired by the numismatists of the country, and with an unfaltering determination to publish a truly numismatic publication will be exerted in efforts to secure interesting material, the results of which, I feel sure, will prove worthy of the support of the American collectors.

I realize that there has been some shortcomings in my magazine, and especially its unavoidable tardiness the last few months should not have occurred; but with all these, I am sure that my subscribers will admit that they have received full value for their subscription price.

But another and more important matter is now before me which requires my every attention, energy and most careful consideration, and that is the removal of my home and business, and on account of which I am obliged to discontinue the publication of the Numismatic Monthly for one year.

The Numismatic Monthly will not be published during 1912.

While I will be relieved of the arduous—though pleasant—task of publishing a magazine during the next year, I will be occupied with a more difficult task of the preparation and arrangements for the removal of my home and business to another city.

In about April or May 1912

I Shall Move To

NEW YORK CITY!

My success in the coin business in Fort Worth met with my fondest hopes. But after a very careful and close study and investigation, and the constant urging of many of my friends to move to New York, I find that a larger field, together with the prestige of a metropolitan city and numismatic center (or what **should be** the "center"), is essential to attain the success which I have every cause to believe my efforts deserve.

I wish that it had been possible for me to personally see and thank every one of my many friends whose share of patronage created for me the successful business I now enjoy. I have always endeavored to be worthy of the favors extended me and I hope that the services I rendered you in the past will warrant your giving me a goodly portion of your future numismatic business.

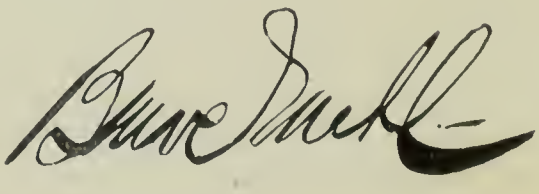
I shall move to New York in April or May; announcement of exact date and location of my office in New York will be made later. But in the meantime I shall continue business in Fort Worth as actively as ever, and will hold two or three very fine sales before I move.

Of course, I shall hold public auction sales in New York. And, come to think of it, this is a good time and place to talk about it. If you are thinking of selling your collection, let me figure with you to sell at at auction in New York. I have some very interesting terms to offer for a real good collection which I could offer as my first sale in New York City.

Again, in regard to the Monthly: This issue is the last number to be published in Texas. We are now carefully going over our subscription lists, and those whose subscription have not yet expired, will receive the amount due them as soon as we can possibly get the accounts properly arranged.

With an exceptional feeling of gratitude to all my friends who by their generous support and patronage have contributed to my success and with hopes for a continuance of their favors in the future, I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a New Year full of all the happiness and joy that you can wish for yourself.

Most truly yours,



Fort Worth, Texas, December 1, 1911.

The United States Fractional Currency

A Short History of This Interesting "Necessity" Money Especially Prepared for the Young Collector.

Written for MEHL'S NUMISMATIC MONTHLY.

By HOWARD H. MARTIN.

Here on my desk lies a little oblong piece of paper. On one end of it the head of Liberty proudly faces the world. Across the other end are the familiar words, "United States." Underneath is the insignificant value, "Ten Cents." Along the lower edge of the note is printed "Fractional Currency," while over all is the red seal of the Treasury Department. This little note is a humble representative of one of the most interesting series of necessity money ever issued.

War usually means hard times and money stringency, and the Civil War was no exception. By the beginning of 1862 there was a noticeable scarcity of gold and silver coin, that extended even to the subsidary silver, halves, quarters and dimes. A large issue of greenbacks was then made, the one dollar value being the smallest. The place of the small coins was taken by tickets, merchants' checks and cards due bills, and so on.

In July, 1862, Congress authorized the use of postage stamps in lieu of the smaller specie. But this had its drawback, for the stamps being gummed often stuck to the pocket or purse, and besides were easily frayed or torn. Then a certain John Gault of New York City patented a device for protecting stamps. The stamps were inserted in flat, circular brass cases with their faces protected by a sheet of mica. These queer pieces of necessity money were called "Encased Postage Stamps," and had a rather limited circulation in the East.

The next step toward a suitable minor currency was taken in August, 1862, when a "Postage Currency" was introduced. This consisted of small notes intended to be exchanged at the postoffices for stamps. There were four values of the first issue. The 5 and 10 cent notes each bore a reproduction of a stamp of the same value. The 25 cent note had a picture of five 5 cent stamps, and the 50 cent note had five 10 cent stamps represented on it. This first issue was so successful that in 1863 Congress authorized the regular issue of Fractional Currency in denominations corresponding to the smaller silver.

The second issue was begun in 1863 and continued until 1867. The notes were of the same denominations as the first issue, 5, 10, 25 and 50 cents. They were all of the same design, the head of Washington in a gilt frame, but had different colored backs.

The third issue, commencing in 1864, had a new value, the 3 cent note. This had the bust of Washington on it. The other regular notes were: the 5 cent, bust of Clark; 10 cent, Washington; 25 cent, Fessenden; 50 cent Spinner; and another 50 cent note showing a seated figure of Justice. There was also produced at this time an essay for a 15 cent note, with busts of Grant and Sherman. The issue lasted until 1869.

The fourth issue, commencing in 1869, dropped the 3 cent and 5 cent

notes, but had instead a 15 cent note with the bust of Columbia. Then there was the 10 cent Liberty, 25 cent Washington, 50 cent Stanton, and 50 cent Lincoln.

With the fifth issue all freak values were discontinued. This issue consisted of the 10 cent Meredith, 25 cent Walker, 50 cent Dexter, and 50 cent Crawford. It lasted from 1874 to 1876 and was the final issue of fractional currency.

As specie was now becoming more plentiful, an act was passed in 1875 for the redeeming of all the fractional currency as fast as the small silver could be coined to take its place. This was done so effectually that by 1880 the "shinplasters" had entirely disappeared from circulation. But it is estimated that there is over $12,000,000 worth of the little notes still outstanding.

It must not be supposed that the several issues with their different values comprise all the varieties of the fractional notes. For example, each note of the first issue was produced both with plain edges and with perforated edges like the postage stamps. In the third issue most of the notes were printed first with green and then with red backs. Then again, some of the notes are found with printed signatures, some with autograph signatures.

The beginner need consider only those things that appeal to his taste and pocketbook. A very nice type collection of about twenty-five pieces may be made without much expense. If he wishes to consider essays, varieties of paper, different shades of seals and backs, width of margins, and so on, he can increase his collection many times. The Baker collection, including all the great rarities with autograph signatures, numbers 287 varieties. It would be difficult to imagine a more delightful task than the composing of a Fractional Currency collection like this one.

FOR NUMISMATISTS.

From the London Globe.

A large coinage is to be struck at Berne for the Swiss confederation next year. The amount in all will be nearly £337,000. There will be 250,000 25-franc pieces, 100,000 10-franc pieces, 400,000 2-francs, and 1,200,000 franc pieces. Of 20-centime, 1,000,000 pieces will be coined, and half as many again of 10-centimes. The commencement next year will be with 10-franc gold pieces. A little more of the national money will be appreciated by visitors, who find a difficulty in passing in payment Italian lire on the French frontier and vice versa.

WILL START SOON ON NEW SILVER DOLLAR.

Canadian Press Dispatch.

OTTAWA.—Manufacture of the new Canadian silver dollar at the mint here will start shortly.

All that the mint is now awaiting is the arrival of the dies necessary for the production of the impression on the new coin. The special machinery has been installed, the press being a very large one, capable of striking a blow of 120 tons.

CANADA SEEKS GOLD COIN RECIPROCITY.

OTTAWA.—Reciprocity with the United States in the matter of gold coinage is the latest outcome of negotiations between Ottawa and Washington. Five and ten dollar gold pieces will be coined at the Ottawa branch of the royal mint of the same weight and fineness as similar coins issued by the United States. At present American gold is accepted here, and it is understood arrangements are under way by which it will be accepted at par across the line.

Sale of Cowell Collection Great Success

Greatest Number of Bidders Ever Before Represented at Mehl's Sales—Much Interest Displayed in Sale, as is Evidenced by the Great Number of Orders Received for Lists of Prices of the Sale—And the Number of New Records Made.

IMPORTANT PRICES REALIZED AT SALE.

1863 Gold dollar	$44.50
1798 $2.50 gold	83.00
1806 over 1805, $2.50 gold	90.00
1864 $2.50 gold	30.00
1873 $3.00, very fine	55.00
1877 $3.00, extra fine	65.00
1879 $4.00 gold	84.00
1799 $5.00, large stars	28.75
1818 $5.00	22.00
1834 $5.00, cross 4	25.00
1876 $5.00	18.35
1796 $10.00	37.25
1873 $10.00, fine	38.75
1883 $20.00, proof	100.00
1884 $20.00, proof	87.00
1857 $1.00 gold, D. mint	12.00
1855 $2.50, D. mint	125.00
1841 $10.00, O. mint	22.00
1854 $1.00 gold, S. mint	10.00
1860 $10.00 gold, S. mint	10.00
Ga. $2.50 gold	58.00
N. Car. $2.50 gold, 20 C.	185.00
$5.00 A. Bechtler 128 G. 22 carats	110.00
1852 $10.00, A. Humbert	30.00
1854 $20.00, Kellogg & Co.	33.50
1855 $50.00, Kellogg & Co.	900.00
1849 Miners Bank $10.00	200.00
1853 $20.00, Moffatt & Co.	53.50
1849 $5.00, N. G. & N.	52.00
1852 $50.00, 900 Thous.	200.00
1848 $2.50, Cal.	69.00
1854 $1.00, Cal. with eagle	14.25
1849 $2.50, Mormon	100.00
1849 $5.00 Mormon	52.50
1850 $5.00, Mormon	47.00
1860 $5.00, Mormon	60.00
1860 $2.50, Clark & Co.	25.00
1861 $20.00, C. G. & Co.	200.00
1860 $10.00, Pike's Peak	48.50
1860 $20.00, Colo., View of Pike's Peak	900.00
1836 Silver dollar	25.00
1861 Confederate half dollar, restrike	12.75
1856 Flying eagle cent	12.50
1866 5c pattern bust of Lincoln	26.25
1866 5c bust of Washington	13.65
Set of the "Dr. Gwynn" notes	21.00
25c note, Fessenden, 25 within gilt design	20.50
50c note, portrait of Crawford with autograph signature of John C. New written across face of note	15.50
Gold Aureus of Flavius Jovianus	12.25
Set of Ormonde Siege Monies	13.30
1793 Chain cent	19.50
1793 Cent, wreath	15.00
1799 Cent, fair	13.50
1804 Cent, very good	15.00
1811 Cent, fine	5.00
1814 Cent, very fine	4.25
1796 Quarter dollar	13.75
1852 Half cent, original, proof	29.50
1798 Dollar, small eagle, 15 stars, fine	10.50
1858 Dollar, proof	39.25

MR. COWELL WELL PLEASED WITH RESULTS.

The following is excerpt from letter just received from Mr. Cowell:

"I am very much pleased with results. I think you have shown great ability and thoroughness in your business at all times, but especially in the sale of my collection.

"C. W. COWELL."

The sale contained over seventeen hundred (1,700) lots, and the amount realized aggregates twelve thousand dollars ($12,000.00).

Collectors who possess the catalogue of this sale may secure a list showing prices realized for each lot for only 50c. The price list with the catalogue now costs $1.00, and after the first of January it will cost $1.50. The catalogue with list is a valuable guide to the value of the coins and currency of the United States. Address B. MAX MEHL, Fort Worth, Texas.

THE NUMISMATIC POLICEMAN.
Drawn by E. C. Verkler, for the Numismatic Monthly.

A Partial List of the Gold Coinage

OF

MEXICO, CENTRAL AMERICA AND SOUTH AMERICA, STRUCK BY OR FOR THE SEVERAL COUNTRIES THEREOF FROM THE DAT EOF THEIR INDEPENDENCE.

Compiled by HARRY F. WILLIAMS

FROM THE

Catalogues of the Collections of Fonrobert, Mehli, Ulex and Salbach, From Catalogues of Other Collections, and from Specimens in the Collection of the Compiler.

(Continued from page 135.)

ECUADOR

1835

(a) Part of the United States of Columbia, 1822.
(b) Independent, 1835.

Escudo (2 Pesos) .....Legend, "EL ECUADOR EN COLUMBIA." Bust of Liberty facing left. Band around head, with "LIBERT" incused. Below on border, "I. QUITO E." Rev., Under a radiant sun are two peaks, on each sits a condor. Legend, "EL PODER EN LA CONSTITUCION." On lower border the date, "G. J."

Doblado (4 Pesos) .....Similar, except "I. QUITO. D." Rev. similar to Escudo.

Escudo	Doblado
1833 Fon. 8294	1835 Fon. 8298
1834 Fon. 8296	

Media Onza .....Legend, "EL PODER EN LA CONSTITUCION." Bust of Liberty facing left. Band on hair, with "LIBERTAD" incused. Below on border, "21 Qs." Date. "4 E." Rev., "REPUBLICA DEL ECUADOR." In field, 7 stars (curved), under which the Sun, in front of signs of the Zodiac. Under these are 2 Peaks, the one on left having a castle on it, on which sits a condor. On the right one is a condor and a smoking crater. Below on border, "* QUITO. F. P."

Onza .....Similar, except "8 E." and "REPUBLICA DEL ECUADOR" and "QUITO M. V."

Media Onza	Onza
1836 Fon. 8302	1842 Fon. 8307

Onza . .....Legend, "EL PODER EN LA CONSTITUCION." Head o Bolivar, facing left. Under neck, "BOLIVAR." Below on border, date and "21 Qs." Rev., "REPUBLICA DEL ECUADOR." A condor with spreading wings surmounts an oval, in front of 4 crossed flags. Peak in foreground (left). Gunboat in background (right). "8 E." on either side of flags. On lower border, "QUITO. G. J."

1852 Williams

PERU

½ Escudo (of Lima).....In field, a circle divided in 3 parts; (left) a lama, (right) a tree, (below) a horn of plenty. Rev., "LIMA" and mmz. In field, a wreath. Date below.

½ Escudo (of Cuzco)....Similar, except "CUZCO" instead of "LIMA" on reverse.

Lima ½ Escudo	Cuzco ½ Escudo
1828 Ulex 3151	1826 Fon. 9206
1829 Ulex 3155	
1833 A. M. Smith	
1838 Ulex 3168	
1841 Fon. 9071	
1842 Ulex 3174	
1850 Fon. 9089	

Escudo (of Lima).....“FIRME Y FELIZ—POR LA UNION.” Helmeted female (r). In right hand, a staff surmounted by cap. Left hand on shield, inscribed “LI | BERTAD.” Rev., “REPUBLICA PERUANA” and mmz. In front of 4 crossed flags, surmounted by laurel wreath, is coat of arms (a shield in three divisions, with lama, tree and horn of plenty). “1—E” on either side of shield. Date below.

Escudo (of Cuzco) .....Obv. similar. Rev., "CUZ. A. 21 Qs." after "PERUANA."

Cuarta de Onza (of Lima).Similar to Escudo of Lima, except "M. 2. E. 21 Q. M. B." after "PERUANA."

Media Onza (of Lima)...Similar to Cuarta de Onza, except "4 E."

Onza of 1844 (of Cuzco)..Similar to Escudo of Cuzco, except "8—E" on either side of shield.

Onza of 1833-1834 (of Cuzco) .....Similar to above, except "CUZCO" Bo. Ar." after "PERUANA."

Onza (of Lima) .....Obv. similar to Escudo of Lima. Rev. similar, except "8—E."

Onza of 1855 (of Lima)..Obv. similar to above. Rev. similar, except "REPUB. PERUANA * LIMA * 8 E * Qs. M. * B * "

LIMA

Escudo	Cuarta
1826 Ulex 3147	1828 A. M. Smith
1828 Fon. 9029	1853 Sal. 879
1829 Salbach 861	1854 Sal. 881
1833 Fon. 9040	1855 Fon. 9102

Media	Onza
1828 Smith	1826 Smith
1854 Williams	1827 Dye
	1855 Sal. 882

CUZCO

Escudo	Onza
1830 Ulex 3357	1833 Fon. 9215
1840 Fon. 9242	1834 Sal. 949
1845 Ulex 3368	1844 Sal. 965

Pattern 5 Pesos .....“FIRME Y FELIZ—POR LA UNION.” Standing figure of Liberty with bare head, facing right. Staff and shield as in preceding. Below, “CINCO PESOS.” Rev., “REPUBLICANA PERUANA. LIMA. 9 DECIMOS FINO.” Flags, wreath and coat of arms as in preceding. Date below.

20 Pesos (Pattern?) .....Similar, except “20 PESOS” below on border of Obv. and “M B” after FINO.

5 Pesos	20 Pesos
1855 Ulex 3183	1855 Snowden, Plate XXIII

5 Soles (Pattern).....“FIRME Y FELIZ—POR LA UNION.” Sitting figure of Liberty (facing). In right hand a lance, surmounted by cap. On lance a flag, inscribed “LIBERTAD.” In left hand, a palm branch, held over an oval shield. On lower border, “5 SOLES.” Rev., “REPUBLICA PERUANA LIMA 9 DECIMOS FINO Y B.” Flags, wreath and coat of arms as usual. Date, below on border.

5 Soles

1855 Fon. 9129

Una Libra . . . . . Bust of Indian (r). Band around head, holding two eagle feathers. "VERDAD I JUSTICIA." "UNA LIBRA" below. Rev., Radiant sun above coat of arms. Palm branch (l.) and laurel branch (r.) of same. "REPUBLICA PERUANA LIMA R OX F" arounn border. Date below.
=5 Pesos
=25 Francs

½ Libra . . . . . Obv. similar, except "½ Libra" below. Rev. similar, except "G. OZ. G."

1/5 de Libra . . . . . Obv. similar, except "1/5 de Libra." Rev. similar to ½ Libra.

1/5 de Libra	Libra
1907 Williams	1899 Williams
	1900 Salbach 927
½ Libra	1901 Salbach 928
1903 Salbach 929	1903 Salbach 928
1907 Williams	

SOUTH PERU

Mint, Cuzco.

A confederation of South Peru and Bolivia was formed in 1836. North Peru was included also. Dissolved 1839.

½ Escudo . . . . . Legend, "REPUB. SUD PERUANA." A radiant sun, 5 small stars above. On lower border, "CUZ. ANO D 1838." Rev., within a laurel wreath (closed at top by a +), ½ | ESCUDO | M. S."

Escudo . . . . . Obv. similar, except "DE" instead of "D." Rev. similar, except "1 | ESCUDO | M.S."

½ Escudo	Escudo
1838 Williams	1838 Fon. 9234

Onza . . . . . Legend, "REPUB. SUD PERUANA." Radiant sun in front of 4 crossed flags. 5 stars above. On lower border, "CUZCO ANO DE 1838." Rev., on border, above, "FIRME POR LA UNION." Below, "8 E. 21 Q. CONFEDERACION M. S." Within a laurel wreath (closed at top by a +), a castle l., surmounted by a feather decorated headdress, a smoking volcano r.; at base, a horn of plenty. The background is the sea, on which is a vessel.

1837 Schulman's sale 1/9/11, 589
1838 Williams

VENEZUELA

(Estados Unidos de Venezuela.)

(a) Confederation Americana de Venezuela, 1811-12.
(b) As part of the Republic of Columbia, 1821.
(c) Independent Republic, 1843.

20 Pesos (Pattern)....."BOLIVAR—LIBERTADOR," whose head faces right. On lower border, "BARRE"; to the left, "ESSAI." Rev., Superscription, "ESTADOS UNIDOS DE VENEZUELA." Two bedecked horns of plenty, crossed, surmount coat of arms (3 fields: Upper left field, standing sheafs. Upper right field, 2 flags, laurel branch and 2 swords. Lower field, a running mustang). To left and left of coat of arms are a laurel and a palm branch tied together below. A flowing ribbon below all is incused "INDEPENCIA—5 DE JULIO 1811—DIOS Y FED'ON—28 DE MARZO 1864—LIBERTAD." Below on border, "GR. 32,2580 LEI 900."

10 Pesos (Pattern).....Similar, except "GR. 16,1290."

1 Peso (Pattern).....Similar, except "GR. 1,6129."

5 Pesos (Pattern).....Similar, except "GR. 8,0645."

1 Peso	5 Pesos
1875 Fon. 7969	1875 Fon. 7967
10 Pesos	20 Pesos
1875 Fon. 7966	1875 Fon. 7965

5 Pesos .....Similar to foregoing 5 Pesos, except "A" above "BARRE" and "ESSAI" amitted and dates.

4 Pesos .....Similar to patterns, except "GR. 6,45161" and "ESSAI" omitted and dates.

20 Pesos .....Similar to pattern except "ESSAI" omitted and dates.

4 Pesos	5 Pesos
1885 Brand	1875 Fon. 7968
1886 Williams	
1887 Brand	20 Pesos
1888 Williams	1889 Williams
1889 Brand	

THE REPUBLIC OF CENTRAL AMERICA

(Republica Del Centro De America.)

(a) United Provinces of Central America, September 1821. Annexed to Mexico, 1822-1823.

(b) Federal Republic of Central America, November 22, 1823, to 1826. Reconstituted 1829. Overthrown 1838.

(c) Federal Republic of Central America, 1842, excluding Costa Rica, formed and failed.

(d) Federal Republic of Central America, 1847, included only Honduras, Nicaragua and San Salvador.

Onza

1824 N.G. Ulex 1995
1828 C.R. A. M. Smith

½ Onza

1825 N.G. Ulex 1999
1828 A. M. Smith
1835 Snowden

¼ Onza

1828 N.G. Fon. 7221
1828 C.R. Ulex 2107
1830 N.G. Fon. 7224
1835 C.R. Fon. 7301
1836 N.G. Williams
1837 C.R. Ulex 2112
1850 C.R. Fon. 7326

Escudo

1825 C.R. Ulex 2106
1833 C.R. Ulex 2110
1844 C.R. Fon. 7304
1846 C.R. Ulex 2118
1849 C.R. Ulex 2129

½ Escudo

1824 N.G. Fon. 7208
1825 N.G. Fon. 7217
1825 C.R. Fon. 7298
1826 N.G. Fon. 7219
1846 C.R. Fon. 7305
1847 C.R. Fon. 7312
1848 C.R. Fon. 7318

NOTE.—For a full description of these coins, see Guatemala and Costa Rica. N. G. on coins shows them to have been struck in or for Guatemala. C. R. on coins shows them to have been struck in or for Costa Rica.

GUATEMALA

(Republica de Guatemala.)

1821

(a) One of the states of the Republic of Central America, 1821.

(b) One of the provinces of Mexico under Augustin, 1822-3.

(c) One of the states of the Republic of Central America, 1823 to 1847 (insurgent most of the time).

(d) Republic of Guatemala, 1847.

Under Mexico.

Proclamation Gold Piece. (1822) Legend, on border, "AUGUSTIN I . EMPERAD DE MEXICO." whose head l. Rev., on border, "GUAT. EN LA PROCLAM. DE SU MR. EMP." At top an oval resting on palm branches, in which are 3 peaks; middle one, a volcano (smoking). Below, in laurel wreath, "26 D DIC. | DE 1822 | 20 DE LA | INDEP."

Onza . . . . . Radiant Sun over 5 Peaks. Date below. On border, "REPUBLICA DEL CENTRO DE AMERICA." Date below. Rev., on grassy ground, a tree. On either side, "8—E." On border, "LIBRE CRESCA FECUNDO." On lower border, "NG. M 21 Os."

1/2 Onza . . . . . Similar, except "4—E."

1/4 Onza . . . . . Similar, except "2-E."

Escudo . . . . . Similar, except "1—E" and "AMER."

1/2 Escudo . . . . . Similar, except "½—E" and "AMER. CENT." and "REPUB." and "FEC." Three peaks only.

NOTE.—The N. G. is the mint mark of Guatemala. C. R. is mint mark of Costa Rica on similar coins.

Onza—8 Escudos
1824 Ulex 1995

Media Onza—4E.
1825 Ulex 1999

Cuarta Onza—2E.
1828 Fon. 7221
1830 Fon. 7224
1836 Williams

Medio Escudo
1824 Fon. 7208
1825 Fon. 7217
1826 Fon. 7219

Rafael Carrera, President, 1851-1865.

Escudo or 2 Pesos . . . . . Head Carrera r.; under it, "FRENER F" (John Baptist Frener, Engraver and Director of Guatemala mint). On border, "RAFAEL CARRERA PTE DE LA RA DE GUATEMALA." Rev., on upper border, "GUATÆ RA S.D.O.M PROTE." "2-P" on either side of coat of arms, a shield, 10 vertical bars above, 3 peaks (center one a smoking volcano) below. Above shield, a radiant sun. Palm branches around coat of arms. Under all "21 Q (date) R."

Peso . . . . . Obv. similar, except "Pe" instead of "Pte." Rev., a wreath of 2 crossed palm branches, in which "1 | PESO" | DATE. Below wreath, "21 Q. R."

Medio Peso . . . . . Obv. similar, except "P" for "Pte" and "R" for "Ra." Rev., as in Peso, except "4 REALS" instead of "1 PESO." 21 Q R. (Fon. 7242). Some 2 Q R (Fon. 7243).

Escudo
1859 Fon. 7238

Peso
1859 Fon. 7239
1860 Fon. 7241

Medio Peso
1860 Fon. 7242
1861 Fon. 7247
1864 Fon. 7257

4 Pesos .....Same as the 2 Pesos (above), except "PROTNE" and "4—P."

1861 Fon. 7246

After Death of Carrera.

20 Pesos .....Head of Carrera r. Under it, "FRENER F." On border, "R. CARRERA FUNDATOR DE LA REP. DE GUATEMALA." Rev., on upper border, "GUATÆ. RA. S.D.O.M. PROTECTE." "20—Ps." on either side of coat of arms, with radiant sun above. Palm branches around coat of arms. On lower border, "0.900 (date) R."

16 Pesos .....Obv. like 20 Pesos. Rev. the same, except "21 Q (date) R" and "16—Ps."

10 Pesos .....Obv. like above, except "RA." instead of "REP." Rev. like 20 Pesos, except "10—Ps."

5 Pesos .....Obv. like 10 Pesos. Rev. similar, only "D—O." and "5—P."

4 Pesos .....Obv. like 10 Pesos. Rev. similar, only "D—O" and "4—P" and "21 Q (date) R."

NOTE.—Fonrobert states both of these pieces to measure 21½ mm. and weigh 8.10 gr.

20 Pesos
1869 Ulex 2033

16 Pesos
1869 Williams

10 Pesos
1869 Fon. 7274

5 Pesos
1869 Fon. 7276

4 Pesos
1869 Fon. 7275

5 Pesos .....Laureated head of Woman l. On border, above, "REPUBLICA—DE GUATEMALA." Below, on border, "CINCO PESOS." Rev., in laurel wreath, 2 muskets and 2 swords crossed, in front of which is a scroll inscribed "LIBERTAD | —:— 15 | DE SETIEMBRE | DE | 1821." Below, on border, "0.900 P" (Paz-Duran), date.

5 Pesos
1874 Fon. 7288
1877 Brand

COSTA RICA

(Republica de Costa-Rica.)

(a) One of the states of the Republic of Central America, 1821.
(b) One of the Provinces of Mexico under Mexico, 1822-3.
(c) One of the Provinces of the Federal Republic of Central America, November 22, 1823-1838.
(d) The Republic of Costa-Rica, 1838.

Onza . . . . . Radiant sun over 5 peaks. Date below. On border, "REPUBLICA DEL CENTRO DE AMERICA." Rev., on grassy ground, a tree. On either side, "8—E." On border, "LIBRE CRESCA FECUNDO." On lower border, C. R. F.(?) 21 Qs."

½ Onza . . . . . Similar, except "4—E."

¼ Onza . . . . . Similar, except "2—E."

Escudo . . . . . Similar, except "1—E" and "AMER."

½ Escudo . . . . . Similar, except "½—E. AMER. REPUB. CENT. FEC." and has 3 peaks only.

Onza	Escudo
1828 A. M. Smith	1825 Ulex 2106
Medio Onza	1833 Ulex 2110 *
1828 A. M. Smith	1844 Fon. 7304
1835 Snowden	1846 Ulex 2118
Cuarta Onza	1849 Ulex 2129
1828 Ulex 2107	Medio Escudo
1835 Fon. 7301	1825 Fon. 7298
1837 Ulex 2112 †	1846 Fon. 7305
1850 Fon. 7326	1847 Fon. 7312
	1848 Fon. 7318

NOTE.—* Counterstamped on both side, a circle "HABILITADA POR EL GOBIERNO," and within a Lion. † Counterstamped on reverse, a star.

Escudo . . . . . A 6-pointed star emanating many rays, within a circle; below, palm and laurel branches; above, "EST. D' COSTA-RICA." Rev., within a circle, a tree on grassy ground; on either side, "1—E." On border, above, "21 Q"; below, "MM. 1842."

NOTE.—Fonrobert (7302) describes said piece and states it was Necessity money, struck under President Carillo. The Ulex collection (2105) and 2113) had two pieces dated 1825 and 1842, which are similar to above in their description, except that Hess in cataloguing the Ulex pieces calls it a Sun instead of a radiant Star. As he gives the date of one as 1825 and Carillo was not President until 1835, the statement as to the piece being Necessity money may be doubted. The piece in Williams' collection, dated 1842, has a radiant 6-pointed Star on obverse, not a Sun.

Escudo, Medio Escudo, Cuarta de Onza, Medio Onza . . . . . The Casto Rica coat of arms (3 mountain peaks, in front of and behind which is the sea. In front is a 3-masted vessel. Behind is another vessel, the rising sun and 5 stars; below coat of arms are 2 laurel branches; below is date. Above, on border, "REPUBLICA DE COSTA RICA." Rev.,, a

column inscribed "15 | DE | SETE. | 1821," leaning against which is a female Indian who holds a bow and 2 arrows in her right hand. Female has on necklace, loin apron of feathers and plume in hair. On border, above, "AMERICA CENTRAL." On either side of value, which is at bottom of border, is (left) "21 Qs"—(right) "J. B." (Values, "½ E," "1 E," "2 E") 4 E.

Medio Onza
1850 Ulex 2136

Cuarta de Onza
1854 Fon. 7336
1855 Fon. 7339
1850 Dye

Escudo
1850 Fon. 7327
1851 Fon. 7333
1855 Fon. 7340

Medio Escudo
1850 Fon. 7328
1851 Fon. 7334
1854 Fon. 7338
1855 Fon. 7341
1864 Fon. 7344

The Costa Rica coat of arms, etc., as on foregoing, on the obv. of the following:

2 Pesos . . . . . Rev., Inscription on border, above, "AMERICA CENTRAL." Within a laurel wreath, "DOS PESOS." Below, on border, "21 Q—G. W." (Fon. calls this 1/10 Onza. Wt. 2.95 gr.)

1866 Fon. 7352.

1 Peso . . . . . Rev. same, except "UN PESO." (Fon. calls this 1/20 Onza. Wt. 1.45 gr.)

1866 Fon. 7353

5 Pesos . . . . . Rev. same, except "CINCO PESOS." (Fon. calls this Cuarta de Onza. Wt. 7.40 gr.)

1869 Fon. 7360
1867 Ulex 2144

5 Pesos . . . . . Rev. ,Inscription on border, above, "PESO 8.064 * LEI 0.900." Below, "G. W." Within a wreath, "5 PESOS."

1873 Williams
1875 Ulex 2148

20 Pesos . . . . . Rev. presumably the same, except "20 Pesos" and weight. (Scant description in catalogue.)

1875 Ulex 2148

2 Colones . . . . . Obv., the Costa Rica coat of arms as in foregoing, but wider; no laurel branches; date below superscription, "REPUBLICA DE COSTA RICA." Rev., bust of Columbus r.; superscription, "AMERICA CENTRAL." Below, "DOS COLONES."

1900 Ulex 2152

5 Colones . . . . . Rev. same, except "CINCO COLONES."

1899 Ulex 2152

10 Colones . . . . . Rev. same, except "DIEZ COLONES."

1900 Ulex 2152

20 Colones . . . . . Rev. same, except "VIENTE COLONES."

1900 Ulex 2152

BASE MY CONFIDENCE IN MY future prosperity on a determination to give efficient service and courteous treatment to ALL my patrons because these things have contributed so largely to my past success.

I have an auction sale of good Numismatic Material booked for an early sale in 1912. Sufficient room for other consignments in this and other sales to follow. *If your collection or duplicates are for sale, please write me.*

B. MAX MEHL

NUMISMATIST

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COIN COLLECTORS desirous of becoming members of the Minnesota Numismatic Association now in course of formation, are requested to communicate with Marshall Alexander, Suite 515, Court Block, St. Paul, Minn.

"We All Have Our Hobbies"

$100 Confederate Bills are getting scarce; I can offer:

1861 Wagon loading Cotton.....	.18
1862 Cars	.08
1862 Negroes hoeing Cotton.....	.25
1864 Mrs. Davis	.18

Dealers usually do not advertise these varieties much because supply has been small, but a fortunate purchase, "a find," was my chance and is your opportunity.

A collection of 15 miscellaneous $1 bills, different, **60c.**

LUTHER B. TUTHILL

South Creek, N. C.

United States Fractional Currency

Especially Arranged and Offered for the Beginner or Young Collector.

The Prices are for Nice, Clean Notes in Perfect State of Preservation.

FIRST ISSUE. (Postage Currency).

5c. Brown, fac-simile of 5c stamp.....$ .30
10c. Green, fac-simile of 10c stamp..... .30
25c. Brown, fac-simile of five 5c stamps; scarce..... .75
50c. Green, fac-simile of five 10c stamps..... 1.10

The Complete Set of Four Notes, $2.25.

SECOND ISSUE.

All with Portrait of Washington in oval gold frame; levee scene below.

5c. Brown back .....$ .30
10c. Green back ..... .30
25c. Lilac back, very scarce..... .75
50c. Orange back. Very scarce note..... 1.25

The Complete Set Second Issue Notes, $2.50.

THIRD ISSUE.

3c. Portrait of Washington. Only 3c note, and smallest denomination note issued. Very scarce .....$ .75
5c. Portrait of Clark. Scarce note ..... .35
10c. Portrait of Washington ..... .35
25c. Portrait of Fessenden ..... .75
50c. Portrait of Spinner 1.25
50c. Justice seated. Scarce 1.35

The Set of Six Notes, only $4.25.

FOURTH ISSUE.

10c. Note, Portrait of Liberty .....$ .30
15c. Portrait of Columbia. Rare 1.25
25c. Large Portrait of Washington ..... .60
50c. Portrait of Stanton 1.00
50c. Portrait of Lincoln. Rare 1.25

The Set of Five Notes $4.00.

FIFTH ISSUE.

10c. Meredith .....$ .25
25c. Portrait of Walker ..... .45
50c. Portrait of Dexter 1.00
50c. Portrait of Crawford ..... .90

The Set of Four Notes, $2.25.

An ordinary set of the Fractional Currency, comprising just the different denominations, 3c, 5c, 10c, 15c, 25c and 50c notes, types of my selection, price $4.00

SPECIAL OFFER: I offer the entire collection as listed above, twenty-three varieties, representing each and every issue and denomination of the Fractional Currency, for only.....$15.00

Please remember that the above prices are for UNCIRCULATED specimens.

I also have in stock nearly all the rarities of this currency; the Red Backs with printed and autograph signatures of Colby, Spinner, Allison and Jeffries. The rare Fessenden note with solid gold disks; Grant and Sherman' notes, etc. Selections cheerfully sent on approval.

B. MAX MEHL

NUMISMATIST

FORT WORTH, ... TEXAS